

NEWS SUMMARY

Call for closure of Peterhead

An independent inquiry yesterday called for the immediate closure of Peterhead Prison, near Aberdeen, the scene of two big riots in the past 12 months.

The committee of inquiry, which includes Mr Ken Murray, a former prison officer, and Mr Jimmy Boyle, a former prisoner, said conditions at the jail were brutal and dangerous, and condemned the lack of an effective complaints procedure.

In its report, *The Roof Comes Off*, the committee says that the Government's plan to build a new prison near by should be scrapped.

The Roof Comes Off (Gateway Exchange, 24 Abbeymount, Edinburgh, £2).

Law chief Shares to stay challenge

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, yesterday issued a statement denying reports that he may soon retire and said he regarded such suggestions as "mischievous".

Lord Lane, aged 69, who is currently hearing the appeal by those convicted for the Birmingham public house bombings, is entitled to remain in his post until he is 75.

Recently he has spoken out defending the judges' independence and criticizing proposals from Civil Servants to reform the civil justice system.

Plain guide to forms

About 11,000 official forms have been scrapped in the past two years to make Whitehall's work more efficient and easier to understand. But about 8,000 new ones were created in the same period and Whitehall still uses 101,600 different forms.

The Cabinet Office set up a special unit in 1982 to examine the way officialdom uses forms. It has since reviewed 126,500 of them, scrapping 27,000 and redesigning 41,000.

Rise in Aids toll Shipping cash plea

Another 56 people were reported to have developed Aids last month and 19 others died from the disease, bringing the totals to 1,123 cases and 624 deaths.

The latest figures from the Department of Health show that most cases continue to occur among male homosexuals or bisexuals in the London area.

There were six more cases last month of haemophilics contracting Aids from contaminated NHS blood products and there were four more deaths.

British shipowners complained yesterday that the financial provisions of the Merchant Shipping Bill, now before Parliament, would not be enough to arrest the decline of the UK-owned merchant fleet.

The General Council of British Shipping said: "If the Government and Parliament decide that it is in the national interest, for defence, balance of payments, trade or employment reasons, for there to be a UK-controlled fleet, manned at least in part with British nationals... more needs to be done".

Clues emerge to planting of bomb

£100,000 reward for capture of O'Hare

Continued from page 1

serving a prison sentence for the possession of firearms. She was pregnant with Julie-Anne at the time.

● The London-based kidnap specialists who advised the family of Mr O'Grady on the best way to secure his release yesterday rejected criticism of their role by the Irish Prime Minister, Mr Charles Haughey (David Sapsed writes).

Mr Haughey was said to have been angered by reports that the Control Risks Group, whose directors include Sir Kenneth Newman, the former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, had advised the family to pay a £1.5 million ransom.

A spokesman for the firm said that Mr Haughey must have "misunderstood" the company's role, and pointed out that it was a pre-condition of every contact between the company and a family or their insurers that full co-operation be maintained with local law enforcement agencies.

Without commenting on Mr O'Grady's case, the spokesman said: "While no body can condone the payment of a ransom to terrorists, it is sometimes necessary to give the impression that concessions are being made in order to continue the process of negotiation."

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RUC forensic scientists examining the debris yesterday of St Michael's Reading Rooms, where the bomb was concealed (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Youths 'heard noise of intruders'

By Michael McCarthy

The bomb that devastated Enniskillen's Remembrance Day service was planted in a Roman Catholic community centre by someone with intimate knowledge of its layout.

Two Catholic youths who sat in its basement late on Saturday night playing poker with the caretaker and his friend said four times they thought they could hear intruders above them, but were scoffed at by the older men who said it was simply the old building creaking.

Eventually one of the men went to look but found nothing. The building, at first described as a "disused school" was in fact an active Catholic social club, the St Michael's Reading Rooms, owned by the church but run by its own committee, where Catholic men met to play snooker and where pensioners gathered for bingo nights.

The bomb, which weighed between 30lb and 50lb, was planted by someone with detailed knowledge of its layout. The seat of the explosion was almost certainly an ante-room, pitch dark and full of old furniture and lumber, between the bingo hall and the gable end wall that blew out with such horrifying effect on to the crowd outside at the cenotaph.

Mr Jim Dunlop, the caretaker, said: "The space is very dark and hardly anyone ever goes there. You would have to know the building very well to know it was there at all."

Monsignor Sean Cahill, Enniskillen's parish priest, expressed shock that church property had been used for the bombing and at the darker implication that perhaps one of his parishioners was responsible.

He said: "I am horrified that somebody should use church property to perpetrate such an outrage. I am totally horrified. I find it unthinkable. The thing that troubles me deep in my heart is that there must have been somebody with local knowledge involved. It is a possibility we have to face."

The building had three doors, one of which was permanently barred from the inside. The second led to a Scouts' storeroom which gave access to the building as a whole. There were at least three sets of keys, held by the Scouts, by Mr Dunlop and by Mr Cahill.

The third and main door to the building was secured by a Yale latch and a mortice lock. Inquiries revealed that at least five members of the reading rooms committee, plus Mr Dunlop, held sets of the keys. Royal Ulster Constabulary detectives were interviewing members of the committee yesterday.

It emerged that the bombers may have gained access to the building through an open door. Mr Dunlop, of Kilmacormack Avenue, Enniskillen, said that he opened the hall for bingo at 7.45pm on Saturday and the session, played by pensioners, continued until 10.20pm.

"All that time the front door was wide open and anyone could have come in without being seen", he said.

A more definite possibility is that the bombers entered while Mr Dunlop and his friend, Mr Eamonn Goodwin, played poker in the basement with Seamus McCarney, aged 14, the son of Mr Seamus McCarney, the committee secretary, and his friend, Damien McGurn, aged 16, for more than two hours after the bingo session had finished.

Mr Dunlop said: "At about 11.45pm Damien thought he

heard footsteps upstairs. He said: 'There's a movement or something. There's somebody up there.' Sean said he thought he heard it as well. We told them, 'It's the old building', as we often heard it crack but they kept saying they could hear something. They said it four times, I think."

"We couldn't hear anything but they kept insisting, so after about 15 minutes, for the sake of them being scared, Eamonn went to the foot of the stairs and threw open the door and shouted: 'Whoever's out there had better not be but there wasn't anybody.'"

Damien McGurn said: "When you look back at it I suppose it could have been the bombers but it's better not to dwell on it. I don't feel too good about it but there's nothing you can do now. I never crossed my mind at the time it could have been somebody planting a bomb."



Mrs O'Hare: Shot in the thigh by her husband.



This man's ideas are changing the world

Now you can have a free copy of his book "Small is Beautiful"

Twenty years ago, Dr Fritz Schumacher started a revolution. He challenged the accepted wisdom that Western largescale high technology can cure Third World poverty.

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INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY

Development Group

Sea search starts for missing jet

A deep sea research ship was sweeping the sea bed 500 miles off Land's End yesterday to find the wreck of the Harrier jet which plunged into the Atlantic nearly two hours after its pilot was sucked from his seat (Our Air Correspondent writes).

Towing microphones, the Cable Protector is searching where the Harrier is thought to be lying in water nearly three miles deep.

The microphones are trying to pinpoint the locator beacon believed still to be "pinging" in the Harrier's cockpit. The battery powered beacon is expected to fall within days.

Mr Alastair MacDonald, managing director of Wimpoles, the Swindon-based survey company, awarded the contract to find the Harrier, said last night: "We do not know whether we will be able to raise the aircraft even if we find it."

Wimpoles, which has carried out many deep sea searches, was hired by the Ministry of Defence.

The RAF has taken delivery of two similar GR3 versions of the Harrier, but neither will fly until the Controller of Aircraft gives a certificate of airworthiness.

BA price for B-Cal may be half its original figure

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The price British Airways prepared to pay for British Caledonian could have dropped by half in the four months since Lord King of Warburton made his original offer.

The collapse in the stock market, which has seen British Airways share values slump from 220p last July to just 121p yesterday, together with the sale of more B-Cal assets and the impact of any "strings" the Government places on the merger, has led

to an internal BA review of the cost of its takeover bid.

Skilful negotiations by Sir Adam Thomson, B-Cal's chairman, forced up the offer price. And the apparent ending boom in BA shares eventually led its merchant bankers to recommend a price that enabled the deal to go ahead.

Since then, however things have changed considerably. Although both airlines are still determined to go ahead with

the merger, should the Government give its approval later this week, a new round of fierce bargaining is certain.

This time BA believes that the pressure is even greater than ever before on B-Cal to accept a lower price.

Once Lord Young of Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has made his views on the merger known British Airways will consult its bankers and financial advisers before formulating another bid for the airline.

It will have to take into account not only the continuing poor financial performance of B-Cal, now expected to show a small profit in the financial year just ended, largely because of the sale of its hotel chain to Aer Lingus for about £30 million, but of the effect of any safeguards to competition which may be written into any government approval for the deal.

At the same time, Sir Adam will say that unless he gets an offer approaching the same size as the one made before the deal was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission he will walk out on the talks and restart negotiations with European carriers.

Although most large airlines deny that they have any interest in the British airline, Sir Adam is adamant that a deal could be completed within a month.

But they will be limited in the amount they can put into B-Cal, which may not be enough to buy the very expensive aircraft now on order.

Through London trains will be between Brighton, Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow; and Dover and Liverpool.

Oxford and there will be new services from the West Midlands to Inverness and to Aberdeen.

All Scotland to London sleeper services will use the West coast route.

Sleeper services being discontinued are from London to Newcastle upon Tyne and Berwick-upon-Tweed, and to Manchester and Liverpool.

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BR changes its sleeper services

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Rail is revising its sleeper services (Our Transport Correspondent writes).

Improvements will include lounge cars for breakfast and late night refreshments, and trains travelling at slower speeds and making fewer stops to ensure a smoother ride.

It is introducing some new sleeper services, although others are to be eliminated because the increasing speeds of day-time InterCity trains has reduced demand.

Non-sleeper services which were introduced in 1986 to enable people to travel across London without changing trains are to be cut by half.

The changes in sleeper services were announced by Dr John Pridmore, director of InterCity, in a speech to the Institute of Transport last night. They come into effect next May.

New sleeper services will be from Plymouth to Edinburgh and Glasgow; Edinburgh will have direct services to Poole, Southampton, Reading and

Oxford and there will be new services from the West Midlands to Inverness and to Aberdeen.

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Muslim holy day dispute heightens

Legal action was threatened yesterday in the battle for control of Britain's one million Muslims.

The threat overshadowed celebrations attended by thousands of Muslims in Hyde Park, London, last weekend to mark the Prophet Muhammad's birthday.

Mr Syed Syedain, a leader of the Libyan-backed group which lost control of this year's event, said he would bring an action for defamation against Sheikh Shams al Deen al-Fassi unless he received a retraction of allegations about £30,000 earmarked for last year's celebrations.

The sheikh, who is related to the Saudi Arabian royal family, took over control of the celebrations after claiming "widespread dissatisfaction" had been expressed with the previous organizers.

Our report last Saturday may have given the impression that Mr Syedain and his colleague, Dr Zaki Badawi, a fellow leader of the UK Council of Imams and Mosques, had fallen out. The two men remain united in their work but have fallen out with the sheikh.

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Customs check on tunnel criticized

By Tim Jones

Government capitulation to commercial and political pressures over the Channel Tunnel could make it easier for drug barons and terrorists to infiltrate Britain unless plans to introduce customs controls on trains are dropped, two leading Civil Service unions said yesterday.

The Society of Civil and Public Servants and the Civil and Public Services Association claim that British Rail wants customs controls for trains journeying from France beyond London to be carried out on board so that passengers are not delayed.

Customs officers believe that Channel train passengers should face the same red and green customs controls operated by airlines and ferry companies.

Mr James Feeney, Dover branch secretary for the society, said yesterday: "On-train controls would be a farce turning to tragedy when international drug-smuggling or

organizations exploit this inevitable weakness in the system."

He said it would be almost impossible for proper customs checks to be carried out on a train where passengers were moving up and down to use the toilets or visit the buffet car.

The unions maintain that a government amendment to the Channel Tunnel Act in the House of Lords providing for on-board customs controls was produced in response to commercial pressures. The Lords, the unions maintained, had mistakenly argued that if through trains had to be held up for customs controls, the services to regional centres would be less attractive.

Mr Feeney said the unions were confident that as part of the war against international drug smuggling, customs officers could check a full train of passengers in 15 minutes, requiring them to step off to have their baggage examined before allowing them to continue their journey.

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organizations exploit this inevitable weakness in the system."

Printer bailed

Stephen Wilson-Parker, aged 54, a printer, of Cannon Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, was bailed yesterday by Bow Street magistrates, pending medical reports, after being charged with writing death-threat letters to Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

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Mr

as nurse's father tells of final tragic moments

Buried victim's last words were - I love you Daddy

By John Cooney

The first funeral today will be that of Marie Wilson, the 20-year-old nurse whose father, Gordon, has said he forgives her murderers. She was the youngest person to die.

Mr Wilson, a retired businessman told the BBC yesterday: "I remember thinking I was not hurt. Then there was a pain in my right shoulder. I shouted to ask Marie if she was all right and she said: 'Yes' and she found my hand and said: 'Is that your hand, dad?'

"We were under six foot of rubble. I said: 'Are you all right, dear?' and she said: 'Yes' but she shouted in between. Three or four times I asked her and she always said she was all right.

"When I asked her a fifth time 'Are you all right, Marie?' she said: 'Daddy, I love you very much'.

"Those were the last words she spoke to me. She still held my hand firmly. I kept shouting at her: 'Marie, are you all right? There was no reply.

"We were there about five minutes. Someone came and pulled me out. I said: 'Thanks boys, I'm all right but, for God's sake, my daughter is lying right beside me and I don't think she's too well. She's dead.

"She did not die there, she died later. The hospital was magnificent, truly impressive, and her friends have been

great. But I have lost my daughter.

"I bear no ill will. That sort of talk is not going to bring her back to life. She was a great wee lassie. She loved her profession. She was a pet and she's dead.

"She's in heaven and we'll meet again. Don't ask me, please, for a purpose. I don't have an answer, but I know there has to be a plan. If I did not think that I would commit suicide.

"It is part of a greater plan and God is good and we shall meet again."

Nurse Wilson had driven to the service with her father.

"When we drove there in the car I said to my daughter: 'I hope the police have checked the area', he said last night.

Mr Wilson said of his daughter, who was in her second year of nursing training at Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital: "She was in the right profession. She really loved nursing. She loved people."

His daughter was an accomplished sportswoman who loved playing squash, badminton and cycling and was also a gifted musician.

She sang in the Royal Victoria Hospital choir and had attained the grade 8 standard of the Associated Boards of the Royal Schools of Music as a violinist.



Julian Armstrong, aged 16, who lost his parents and (right), Mr Gordon Wilson and his wife Joan, whose daughter, Marie, was killed in the bombing

When fear replaced a father's relief

By Michael McCarthy

A father drove home his terrified son and other children after the explosion - and then remembered that his own parents had been standing in the crowd near the Cenotaph.

He searched in the rubble for two hours before learning that they were both dead.

Mr James Mullan said yesterday that his son, Adam, aged 10, had been due to lay a wreath on behalf of his school, Enniskillen Model Primary School.

The boy usually stood next to his grandparents but had found himself separated from them and was too shy to cross the road.

Mr Mullan said: "We were standing on the other side of the road next to the carpet shop when the bomb went off. It was like a holocaust. My first concern was my son.

"I couldn't see him. He was covered in dust. I began sifting through the debris and rubble and I found him: he was frozen in a state of shock. This will be with him for the rest of his life.

"I picked him up and put him on my shoulder and carried him to the car. Then I went back for some other children because I had a first aid kit in the car and I drove them home.

"It was only then I thought about my mum and dad. I had

expected them to ring and I realized they hadn't. I went back and searched for two hours and it was only in the hospital that I found out that they had died."

Mr Billy Mullan, aged 73, and his wife Agnes, aged 70, known as "Nessie" died together in the explosion.

Mr Mullan, a native of Limavady, trained in pharmacy at Foyle College, Londonderry, and became a chemist in Belfast before establishing himself in Enniskillen 18 years ago, where he was joined by his son, James.

He was a former Sunday school superintendent at the Presbyterian church and was a

Mason. Like his wife, who came from Armagh, Mr Mullan was a keen gardener.

Mrs Georgina Quinlan, aged 72, was killed as she stood by the war memorial proudly wearing her Second World War medals.

She was an RAF nurse throughout the Second World War serving in north Africa and north-west Europe.

She returned to Enniskillen after the war and carried on nursing until her retirement 12 years ago, regularly attending the Cenotaph commemoration.

Her husband George, a local government officer, died three years ago.

Boy 'knew parents were dead'

Mr Wesley Armstrong, aged 63, a British Telecom engineer and former customs officer, was killed at the service with his wife, Bertha, aged 53.

They had gone with their son, Julian, aged 16, a member of the Boys' Brigade, who was still in hospital last night.

He told a sister who visited him yesterday: "I was standing in between my parents when it went up."

"When the bomb went off rubble and debris fell on top of me. I struggled to get free but I knew my mum and dad were dead."

20 of the injured remain in hospital

Twenty of the 63 people injured by the Enniskillen bomb remained in hospitals in Enniskillen, Londonderry and Belfast last night, some of them seriously ill.

Hospital authorities at Enniskillen's Erne Hospital said yesterday that 21 people aged from two-and-a-half to 20 had been injured in the explosion. The youngest was a boy aged two and a girl aged three-and-a-half. Neither was seriously hurt.

In Enniskillen, a girl aged six with a knee injury was said to be stable, a girl aged 12 with a head injury was said to be seriously ill and a boy aged 15 with leg fractures was said to be stable.

Julian Armstrong, aged 16, who lost both parents in the blast, was said to be stable with severe facial lacerations. A boy aged 15 with leg fractures, who was transferred to Belfast City Hospital, was also said to be stable.

Many of those hurt suffered crush injuries from the wall which was blown on top of them. Dr Bill McConnell, chief medical officer of the Erne Hospital, said: "The bomb was of such force that the masonry came down in one piece rather than in many pieces.

Surgeons at the Erne Hospital operated for 14 hours while at the Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry, surgical teams operated continuously for more than 16 hours.

Mr Harry Donaldson, aged 65, a lorry driver and father of six, who survived the blast, sustained a broken thigh and injuries to his pelvis and left arm. He said: "It was horrible to hear the people crying."

Small church loses six members

An Ulster churchman spoke last night of his grief at losing six members of his congregation in the bombing.

Mr William Mullan and his wife Nessie, Mr Kit Johnston and his wife Jessie, Mr Johnnie Megaw and Mr Ted Armstrong, an off-duty policeman, all belonged to Enniskillen Presbyterian Church where the Rev David Cupples is minister.

He said: "We are all

stunned and shocked. These six people were not only known in our congregation, but were well-loved members of the community.

"There is always the possibility of bitterness after something like this, but talking to the relatives there has been no expression of outrage or bitterness."

Mr Johnnie Megaw, aged 68, worked as a caretaker at a

shopping arcade in the town. Mrs Jessie Johnston, aged 70, was a former nurse at the Erne Hospital and her husband Kit, aged 70, was formerly an ambulance driver at the same hospital.

Protestant and Roman Catholic churchmen yesterday emphasized the common bonds between the Christian denominations to try to limit the damage done to community relations.

Birmingham bombings appeal

Police 'threatened witness'

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

A former woman police officer told the Birmingham bombings appeal yesterday that she had omitted important evidence because of threats to her family when she appeared before the Court of Appeal last week.

Mrs Joyce Lynas said that one threat came from a police officer and the other in an anonymous telephone call after she had seen police investigators and a lawyer acting for the appellants.

Mrs Lynas told Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, and the two other Court of Appeal judges that she had seen one of five Irishmen held at a Birmingham police station after the bombings attacked in an interview room. She said the suspect was held by two officers as a third knelt him in the groin.

Mrs Lynas told the hearing of the appeal by six men against conviction for the murder of 21 people that she had never mentioned the attacks publicly because she feared for her children.

She told the court last week that she was a police cadet on duty at Queen's Road police station, Birmingham, after the IRA attacks in November 1974 when five of the men who were later convicted were brought in.

In her evidence she des-

cribed how the men were treated roughly, sworn at and suffered considerable noise as they rested in their cells. She returned to court after contacting a defence solicitor at the weekend and making a fresh statement.

Mrs Lynas said that last summer she was telephoned by an inspector of the Devon and Cornwall police force, which was investigating the case. She said that she had called Queen's Road police station to see if the caller had been genuine.

She said she spoke to two officers. "I asked them what the general feeling was about the inquiry and the second one said, 'You know what you saw and heard but don't forget we have all got families'."

Mrs Lynas was interviewed by Devon and Cornwall police then by a solicitor for the appellants at Worcester police station last September. An officer from the Devon and Cornwall force was present.

She told the court that later she received a telephone call at home. "I answered the telephone and a voice said, 'Is that Mrs Lynas? Don't forget you have got children?' Mrs Lynas, who has two children, said: 'I asked who it was. There was no reply.'"

She did not report the call because, "I did not know

where it had come from. Coming so soon after Worcester I did not feel I could trust anybody."

She said that she had been frightened to tell the court last week but she saw a television programme last Friday about bullying in the Army and the need for people to come forward to prevent it.

Mr Tom Clarke, a former Birmingham police officer, told the court last week that officers with guns had been intimidating the suspects in the cell area of Queen's Road police station.

Mrs Lynas said yesterday she had also seen armed officers in the cell area. She said she saw the assault when she went to take tea to one of the interview rooms.

"When the door was opened one of the defendants was standing up and there were at least three officers in the room. As the door opened one of the officers stepped forward and knelt the man in the groin while the other officers held his arms.

"They said: 'This what we do to the murdering bastards.' There were some other words which were said which I found quite disturbing, vile really." Mrs Lynas would not repeat them in court.

The hearing continues today.

More price cuts in package holidays

By Derek Harris, Innsbruck

Horizon, Britain's third largest package tour operator, joined the battle for next summer's foreign holiday-makers yesterday by cutting the prices of its upmarket Wings operation, newly acquired from the Rank Organization.

But neither Horizon nor International Leisure Group, whose subsidiaries include Intasun and Global, followed Thomson Holidays, the biggest tour operator, which wiped £18 million off more than a million holidays before yesterday's opening of the annual convention of the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta).

Both International Leisure and Horizon indicated a virtual truce in the price war, but many in the industry regard the peace as uneasy.

International Leisure ar-

gued that Thomson was merely realigning its prices, particularly on child reductions.

The Thomson announcement was criticized as "unrealistic" by Mr Keith St Clair, chairman and managing director of Sol Holidays, who is a member of the tour operators council within Abta.

Intasun Holidays expects such growth in camping holidays abroad that it is doubling its capacity for such holidays next summer to 50,000. Prices are comparable with similar holidays in Britain, Intasun says. It has bought the Club Mar Estang, near Canet Plage, Perpignan, in the south of France, to increase capacity.

Butlin's, the Rank Organization subsidiary, is to spend £13 million on its holiday centre at Ayr in Scotland to launch it as Wonderwest World.

Portfolio Gold - A luxury cruise for the winner

Yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000 is shared by Mr John Mills, of Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, and Mrs Yvonne Jobling, of Luton Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr Mills, a retired surveyor, has been playing Portfolio Gold since it started. "Since I retired, I look forward to it every morning", he said, adding he and his wife Maureen would like a luxury cruise.

Mrs Jobling, who has three married children, has no definite plans for spending the prize.

For a Portfolio Gold card, send a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn BB1 6AJ.

ANNOUNCING RECORD PROFITS.

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November 9 1987

PARLIAMENT

'In all the tragedy of the terror campaign, this outrage stands out in its awfulness'

King pleads for calm after Ulster disaster

Those who called for retaliation for the Enniskillen bomb outrage must not be provoked. Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in a statement on Sunday's attack.

He was cheered when he offered sympathy for the bereaved and injured in the "appalling outrage" and paid tribute to the work of the emergency services.

It was clear, he said, from the location chosen for the bomb, and the absence of any warning, that those responsible for the monstrous act had set out deliberately to kill and maim ordinary members of the public people from both communities who had come together on a Sunday morning, young and old, like thousands upon thousands of others throughout the United Kingdom, to honour the memory of those who had died in two world wars and since.

"In all the tragedy of the terrorist campaign, this outrage stands out in its awfulness. To perpetrate such an outrage against people at random, whom the occasion was already one of sorrow and remembrance, betrays a total lack of any human feeling (cheers)."

"Nor could there have been a more deliberately provocative act, more calculated to stir up sectarian hatred, than this outrage on this special and solemn day."

"There is a deep sense of

N IRELAND

anger and outrage felt throughout Northern Ireland today. I know that there will be many who will call for retaliation. I say to them, most urgently, that they must not be provoked."

Further acts of violence would only play into the hands of the terrorists and make more difficult the task of the security forces.

Instead, they must determine that every possible assistance was given to the RUC and security forces in their continuing fight against terrorism, and in particular to bring those responsible for "this atrocious crime" to justice, wherever they might be.

"There must be some who have, in the past, given tacit support to the terrorists or who have preferred to look the other way, who must surely be horrified at yesterday's outrage."

If they or anyone else had information to identify the culprits, and if their revision at the terrible crime was genuine, they must ensure that they gave the RUC any help they could.

He would be having further talks with Irish ministers about security and expressed appreciation of the strong message of support and co-operation sent to the Prime Minister by the Taoiseach (the Irish Prime Minister), Mr Haughey.

There were those who believed that this latest, most foul, attack was a measure of the frustration of the terrorists in

the light of the recent considerable successes by the security forces.

Whatever their motive, the courage and resourcefulness of the security forces, backed up by the same courage and steadfastness of the community at large, aided significantly by international co-operation, had inflicted severe blows on the terrorists.

Nevertheless, the outrage showed the evil threat they posed, and the vital need for the whole community to continue to stand steadfastly against them.

He wished the House to send two messages to the people of Northern Ireland, of resolve to stand firmly with them in the fight against terrorism, and to assure them of full support; and, second, to make clear to the men of violence that no threat or outrage destroyed their resolve, but rather made them all the more determined to rid the province of the evil of terrorism.

Mr Kevin McNamara, chief Opposition spokesman of Northern Ireland: The whole nation shares the feelings of revulsion caused by this horrible and obscene act.

In the past, even the most barbaric were allowed to honour their dead in peace. It is particularly horrific when we recall that MPs were yesterday before their local constituencies honouring the dead, but more particularly welcoming the reconciliation that there has been since the two world wars.

He said that those who, on the radio that morning, had heard

Mr Gordon Wilson, father of the nurse Marie Wilson who had died, could not have had better or more personal insight into the personal tragedies resulting from this terrible deed.

He welcomed Mr King's warning against retaliation and over-reaction, however understandable, but said:

"We must react with cold anger, with determination to support the forces of law and order, and the RUC in particular, in their efforts to bring these criminals to justice."

He joined in the tribute to the emergency services and to the ordinary citizens of Enniskillen.

"There is a particular message from this tragedy. It gives the lie to any suggestion that any democrat can flirt with those who support the philosophy of the bomb and the bullet. For democrats, it is the ballot box that matters."

The people of Enniskillen had the knowledge, not only of the sympathy of MPs, but of the resolute determination of the House of Commons, that they should be able to lead their lives secure and in peace. It was their duty to ensure that they achieved that.

Mr King said that the whole House would appreciate what Mr McNamara had said, particularly that no democrat could flirt with anybody who espoused the cause of terrorism.

He described Mr Wilson's words that morning as the most moving broadcast he remembered, giving an insight into the amazing courage and wonderful calm of the people of Enniskillen.



Mr Tom King (left), the Rev Ian Paisley (top right) and Mr Kenneth Maginnis who all expressed their sorrow and anger in the Commons yesterday.

Statement 'is a total let-down for my suffering people'

In questions after Mr Tom King's statement on the Enniskillen bombing, Kenneth Maginnis (Fermanagh and South Tyrone, OUP) offered congratulations to the emergency services for the way they had brought comfort to the injured, and to his constituents who had rallied round the bereaved.

He said that he was devastated by the deaths of another 11 of his constituents, bringing the total death toll in his constituency to 194. He was doubly devastated to hear Mr King's statement.

"It is an insult to this House yet again to come here and offer platitudes. It is a total let-down for my suffering people."

"All we have had is a further abdication of the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Office and of this Government to the Government of a foreign state."

Those living near the frontier realized that if they got any co-

operation on security matters from the Irish Republic it was a bonus and was not the basis of proper security. The basis of proper security lay in the hands of the British Government.

Mr King would do much better to demand from everyone in Northern Ireland, including the SDLP, that they can no longer ally with a simple condemnation of violence, but that they must accept responsibility for the welfare of the community in which they live.

Mr King replied that the House would understand the great emotion with which Mr Maginnis spoke.

"We all know the tragic history and the scale of the casualties that his constituents have suffered over the years of this terrorist campaign and that this is a further appalling blow for them."

Determined efforts had been made, and there had been some successes in recent months, in

bringing a number of people to justice and in preventing other terrorist incidents.

This was a time for everybody to give full support to the RUC and the security services. This was a time when there was no half-way house. There was no

It is an insult to come here and offer platitudes

chance of deciding whether to sit on the fence on this one.

"Against terrorists of this depravity and this viciousness, those who are not for us are against us and we need the full support of every democrat to defeat them."

The Rev Ian Paisley North Antrim, DUP, said he spoke with anguish of heart and anger at the massacre. No amount of condemnation or sympathy from Mr King or the Government would allay the

fears of the people of Ulster in regard to the increasing IRA terrorist murders.

"The people of Northern Ireland do not want sympathy from the Government nor do they want condemnation of this violence. They want action to put this violence down so that they might live in peace and get on with the ordinary aspects of everyday living."

The Anglo-Irish agreement had not brought peace, stability and reconciliation, but polarization, war and increasing bloodshed and violence.

He asked why the reading room in which the bomb was placed had not been searched.

Mr King said that no MP would resent Mr Paisley expressing his feelings in the face of this tragedy and horror that they were meeting to review.

"It is our duty as elected representatives and in a position of responsibility to try to ensure that those emotions inevitably aroused by actions of this kind

are channelled into way that are genuinely helpful."

He had no understanding of anybody in any sense refusing permission to search the reading room. It was a place for spectators, for ordinary members of the public. There was no question of forbidding a search. All possible precautions were taken.

Mr David Alton, Liberal spokesman on Northern Ireland, said the most lasting memorial to the innocent victims would be a redoubled determination and resolve to strengthen Anglo-Irish co-operation.

Mr King said the Enniskillen killings would bring a better chance of co-operation within Northern Ireland.

Many people who had felt they could stand aside now realized the menace that threatened every decent person in Northern Ireland.

It was within Northern Ireland that the issues had first to be tackled. The Government

was keen to see ways in which the security forces could co-operate with the Garda.

Given the geography of the island of Ireland, there could be no serious suggestion that best progress was going to be made in separation from the Government of the Republic.

A proclamation of martial law was needed; introduction of identity cards - with fingerprints and photographs - for everyone, all stored on a central computer; compulsory notification of change of address; abolition of the 50 per cent remission on terrorist sentences, to be replaced by restoration of ordinary remission terms; intermittent should be reintroduced.

Mr King welcomed the call for no retaliation.

Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, expressed abhorrence at the appalling atrocity. It had been an act of sheer savagery, coldly calculated to stir and hit at the deepest emotion of Unionists and the British people.

other incident in the 17 years of grievous suffering by the harassed people of Northern Ireland, at the hands of the Provisional IRA, whose campaign of systematic and ruthless murders of Protestant men, women and children had gone on too long.

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Mayhew defends Wright stance

If the Government did not seek all proper steps to enforce the obligation on retired security service personnel to keep their duty of confidentiality it would not be able to do so in subsequent cases, Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, said during Commons questions.

Mr John Fraser, an opposition spokesman on legal affairs, had said that because Mr Wright's disclosures were "about as confidential as a stage whisper" and because the Government was sensitive about spending public money, why did not the Attorney General simply pursue Mr Wright and his publishers for account of profits?

Why was it necessary to proceed with the expensive proceedings in the courts of many countries?

When the Attorney General looked at the review of the legal aid system, would he be as

SECURITY

indulgent to the ordinary citizen pursuing his rights as he was with the Government against Mr Wright?

Earlier, Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) asked how much the Government had allocated for future spending on trying to prevent publication of Mr Wright's book, *Spycatcher*.

Sir Patrick said no specific amount for future expenditure was allocated for any particular case.

Mr Winnick asked: Has Wright crossed his gratitude to the Government for helping to boost the sale and publicity of the book?

The money so far spent - and probably there would be far more in the future - would have been better spent in trying to scrutinize the security services and having a parliamentary select committee on the matter.

Sir Patrick said in litigation it was the ultimately successful party who was normally awarded costs. Second, the Government was claiming account of profits against Mr Wright and his publishers in Australia and against newspapers in New Zealand, Hong Kong and Britain.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Barton, C) asked if Sir Patrick was considering any changes in law or terms of contract of Servicemen to stop those who might be tempted to betray their country's secrets for money from doing so.

Sir Patrick said present legislation remained in force, but work was in hand to devise provisions which would be an effective and forcible and reasonable alternative, although that was not without difficulty.

EEC budget needs a sound footing

The Government believed that until there was agreement on the control of spending in the European Economic Community it did not make sense to address the question of any increase in resources. Lord Brabazon of Tara, a Government Treasury spokesman, told the House of Lords.

Responding to a debate on the Lords EEC Committee report, *Financing the Community*, Lord Brabazon said the increase in Britain's own resources ceiling proposed by the commission was quite unrealistic as well as being inconsistent with the need to make budget discipline more effective.

The Government was committed to the Community and that was one reason why it was striving to put its finances on a sound footing. At the same time the Government was determined to protect the interests of British taxpayers and consumers.

Those objectives were not incompatible. In the current negotiations the Government was doing its utmost to ensure

HOUSE OF LORDS

that the deal reached in good for Britain and good for Europe.

Lord Kearton (Lab), the committee chairman, said the committee was satisfied that the commission needed more money.

However it agreed unreservedly with the Government's objective of a legally binding budgetary discipline.

In his maiden speech, Lord Plumb (C, president of the European Parliament) said the forthcoming European summit in Copenhagen must break the lock of the problems facing the EEC. Otherwise the Community will slide backwards to the detriment of its 321 million citizens.

The food surpluses had damaged the Community's reputation. When 50 per cent of the money spent on the common agricultural policy went towards the storage or disposal of surpluses, it brought no benefit to farmers or consumers.

Bishop of Birmingham, fell with the dissolution of Parliament. Lord Houghton of Sowerby reintroduced the Bill this session.

The committee will include Lord Brightman (chairman), Lady Warnock, Lady Faithfull, the Bishop of Gloucester and Lord Houghton.

Abortion committee

The House of Lords approved members of the select committee to examine the merits of a private peer's Bill to prevent abortions being performed after 24 weeks gestation.

The original Infant Life (Preservation) Bill, introduced by Dr Hugh Montefiore, former

Licensing law reform in 'a relatively modest Bill'

Oddity of those forbidden afternoons

Drink licensing laws contained one considerable oddity in that they included "the forbidden afternoon". Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said in the Commons when moving second reading of the Licensing Bill.

On a normal weekday a public house was compelled to stay shut between 3pm and 5.30pm, he said and the central purpose of the relatively modest Bill was to put that right.

The Bill would allow licensed premises to open from 11am to 11pm, thus removing the present restriction on afternoon opening from public houses, hotels, wine bars and other licensed premises as well as registered clubs.

There was no requirement to open for longer hours, the Bill simply removed the obligations to close.

"I cannot think that anyone setting down now to devise a system for regulating the consumption of alcohol would light upon our present law as a sensible way of doing so."

Much had changed since the forbidden afternoon was established for wartime purposes in 1915. He could not see why it was acceptable to drink at lunchtime, wicket to drink in the afternoon and acceptable to drink again in the evening.

"We must remember that most drinking nowadays does not take place in public houses. Scottish evidence suggests that less than a third of drinking takes place in pubs."



Mr Douglas Hurd: An ambition to get the Bill through.

It was not the Government's case that alcohol abuse did not exist or was not serious. No Home Secretary with even a fleeting acquaintance with the causes of crime or the inmates of prisons could doubt that alcohol abuse was a serious and continuing threat to the individual and to society.

"If I felt that by moving this Bill and opening up the forbidden afternoon, we were increasing the dangers of alcohol abuse, then I would not be moving the Bill, and we would not have put it in our election manifesto."

The evidence did not support such a fear. Since the Scottish Act of 1976 came into force there had been widespread use of extensions to allow licensed premises to open during the afternoon.

Consumption of alcohol by

men in Scotland, determined by surveys by the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys, did not differ significantly before and after the 1976 Act, although the average time spent drinking increased by more than an hour.

There had been a significant increase in the consumption of alcohol by women, who drank for an average of one and a half hours longer, but in view of the figures for men the OPCS had concluded that that seemed more likely to be because of changes in attitudes towards women drinking and was unlikely to be a consequence of the changed law.

Figures for drunkenness offences in Scotland showed little change, either in the offences recorded or charges proved, before and after the passage of the Scottish Act.

The statistics for drink-driving offences did not provide any evidence that flexible licensing hours had had any important effect. Because of changes in recording and procedures, figures were not easy to interpret, but if anything, there appeared to be little change in the trend in Scotland and an increase in England and Wales.

Alcohol-related health problems were higher in Scotland, as they had been for a long time, than in England and Wales, but in general the proportionate increase in Scotland since 1976 had been smaller than in England and Wales.

A study at Edinburgh University had concluded that the new

Scottish licensing arrangements could be viewed neither as a source of harm nor as a source of benefit, they had in effect been neutral.

When Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes, C) asked why the Home Secretary had not taken the opportunity to make the same decision on flexibility of licensing hours in respect of Sunday, Mr Hurd replied: "I hope it is not too crude an answer to say that I want to get the Bill through" (laughter).

He added that the provisions of the Bill as they stood were substantially correct and the degree of opposition to them had been considerably more muted than he had expected.

He hoped that Clause 2 of the Bill, a necessary but in case the relaxation of hours in the afternoon gave rise to unforeseen problems of annoyance, disturbance, or disorderly conduct, they had made provisions for restriction orders so that licensing justices or magistrates could impose a temporary closure for all or part of the afternoon.

He made clear that the new ministerial group on alcohol misuse was a standing group and it was not the intention to work towards the production of a group report.

The group would look at priorities in the allocation of resources, would be open to new ideas for remedying misuse and would seek to arrange for better co-ordination of policy. Young people had been identified by the group as a priority.

Channon aims to reduce casualties

ROADS

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, said during Question Time in the Commons that it was his target to reduce road casualties by 100,000 a year by the end of the century.

Mr Jeremy Hayes (Harrow, C), said that some of the most appalling carnage on the roads could be reduced by making advisory speed limits on motorways compulsory.

Mr Channon said that he was discussing this issue with the police. Drivers who disobeyed either advisory or mandatory speed limits were behaving very dangerously. If the police decided to concentrate more on enforcement of the limits, he would not stand in their way.

Mr William Powell (Corby, C), said that drink was a major factor in many road accidents. Could the Minister confirm that, under the existing law, a constable could require a breath specimen if there had been an accident, if there had been a moving traffic offence, or if he had reasonable cause to believe that somebody had been drinking?

Could the Minister also confirm that the courts had held that "reasonable cause to believe" need not arise until after the person had finished drinking?

Could he ensure that the widest possible publicity was given to this so that, although a system of random breath testing as such did not exist, the public realized that something very little short of it did exist?

ROADS

Mr Channon confirmed that Mr Powell was correct.

Mr Robert Hughes, the chief Opposition spokesman on transport, said that 35 per cent of those killed on the roads were pedestrians. Would the Minister reassure the House that he would place no inhibitions on research into road safety?

Mr Channon said that he did not favour such inhibitions. Casualty trends for 1987 were encouraging.

Sir Anthony Grant (South West Cambridgeshire, C), said that the number of road deaths was equivalent to a jumbo jet crashing every month.

One major cause of accidents was vehicles driving too close behind each other, especially heavy goods vehicles.

Mr Channon said that there had been special "Keep Your Distance" publicity campaigns. He was now experimenting with special motorway signs about keeping one's distance and about keeping left except when overtaking.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Question Time; Defence; Prime Minister. Debate on House of Commons security and the vetting of staff. Consideration of Felixstowe Dock and Railway Bill.

Lords (2.30): Merchant Shipping Bill, second reading.

Air spending will increase

CIVIL AVIATION

Over the last five years, £12.5 billion had been spent on improvements to the air traffic control system. The CAA plans to increase the rate of spending in the future.

Ms Joyce Quin (Gateshead East, Lab) said there was great public disquiet about the crowding skies above London. The best way of tackling this problem would be a planned expansion of Britain's regional airports.

Mr Channon replied that the CAA had a duty to deal with the situation, had spent vast sums of money on this and would continue to do so. No sensible proposal from the authority had ever been turned down by him or his predecessors.

Mr Terence Higgins (Wor-

CIVIL AVIATION

thing, C) said that it was intolerable that one could get a number of flights between 5am and 6am which awakened billions of people for the benefit of a few hundred people.

Mr Channon said that the use of night flights into Heathrow would be restricted if his proposals were generally agreed.

The only purpose of the programme, apart from increasing the number of flights to and from London, was to throw more people out of work.

He was told by Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State, Department of Transport, that LRT was not committed to a 100 per cent programme of one-person-operated buses in London as was the norm in most other big cities of the world.

Every route so converted saved the taxpayers £250,000 a year, meant fewer assaults on staff and fewer boarding and alighting accidents.

Figures 'cooked'

Any figures supplied by London Regional Transport suggesting that the further introduction of "one-man buses" was popular with the public must be cooked, Mr Michael Foot (Blakenau, Gwent, Lab) said to cheers during question time.

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More delays likely over 'watchdogs'

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Further delays in the re-establishment of Commons select committees were in prospect yesterday as MPs prepared to challenge some of the proposed membership lists.

Unionist MPs are incensed at their lack of representation on the committees. They are in the Committee of Selection last week. Negotiations were taking place yesterday. If these were not successful the Unionists would be asked to back certain defence committees, and possibly all the committees, when their memberships came before the Commons for approval late last night.

Meanwhile, the longest serving Tory on the social services committee, Mr Nicholas Winter, was planning to block formation of that committee in protest at the chairmanship with the connivance of his own

whips, being given to a relatively inexperienced Labour MP. He was also considering resigning his place.

Formation of any or all the committees after the general election in June has already meant more than £500,000 being paid in salaries to the 84 staff which service them for five months of enforced idleness. More important, scrutiny of the work of Government departments by the watchdog committees has gone by default.

Northern Irish MPs have been given two places on the new committees, but the Unionists believe that they should have an extra two, and in particular want Mr Kenneth Maginnis put on the defence committee instead of the SDP's Mr John Cartwright. They believe that the Army's presence in Ulster makes their representation on that committee vital.

Mr Winter, MP for Macclesfield, is furious at a behind-the-scenes agreement reached by Government and Opposition business managers to give Mrs Audrey Wise, the new Labour MP for Preston, the chairmanship of the social services committee.

Ostensibly a select committee decides for itself who should be its chairman, but in practice the chairmanships are divided up between the parties by the two sets of whips.

Northern Irish MPs have

been

Ruskin College told to give pledge on academic freedom

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

Ruskin College, Oxford, was yesterday urged to tighten its disciplinary procedures and make a clear and unequivocal statement of its commitment to academic freedom.

The suggestions came in a report published by the Department of Education and Science.

It was produced by a team of three headed by Sir Albert Sloman, the former vice-chancellor of Essex University, and was ordered by the Government after Mr David Selbourne, a politics tutor at the college, said he had been forced to resign when students picketed and boycotted his lectures because he had written an article for *The Times* in defence of a trade union ban.

The report is not concerned with the facts of the case which are to be the subject of two High Court actions. "This has deprived us of crucial evidence of how the college officers reacted with a problem involving academic freedom arose", the report says. "Our findings must be seen in the light of this major reservation."

The report says that individual members of staff must not be inhibited by any tradition of accepted views.

"They have the right to be unorthodox." They must be free to write as they think fit and to publish their writings "in a form, at a time and in a place, of their own choosing".

Students, the report says, who may threaten academic freedom by disrupting or attempting to disrupt lectures, boycotting lectures or trying to prevent a fellow student from going to a class should be liable to disciplinary proceedings.

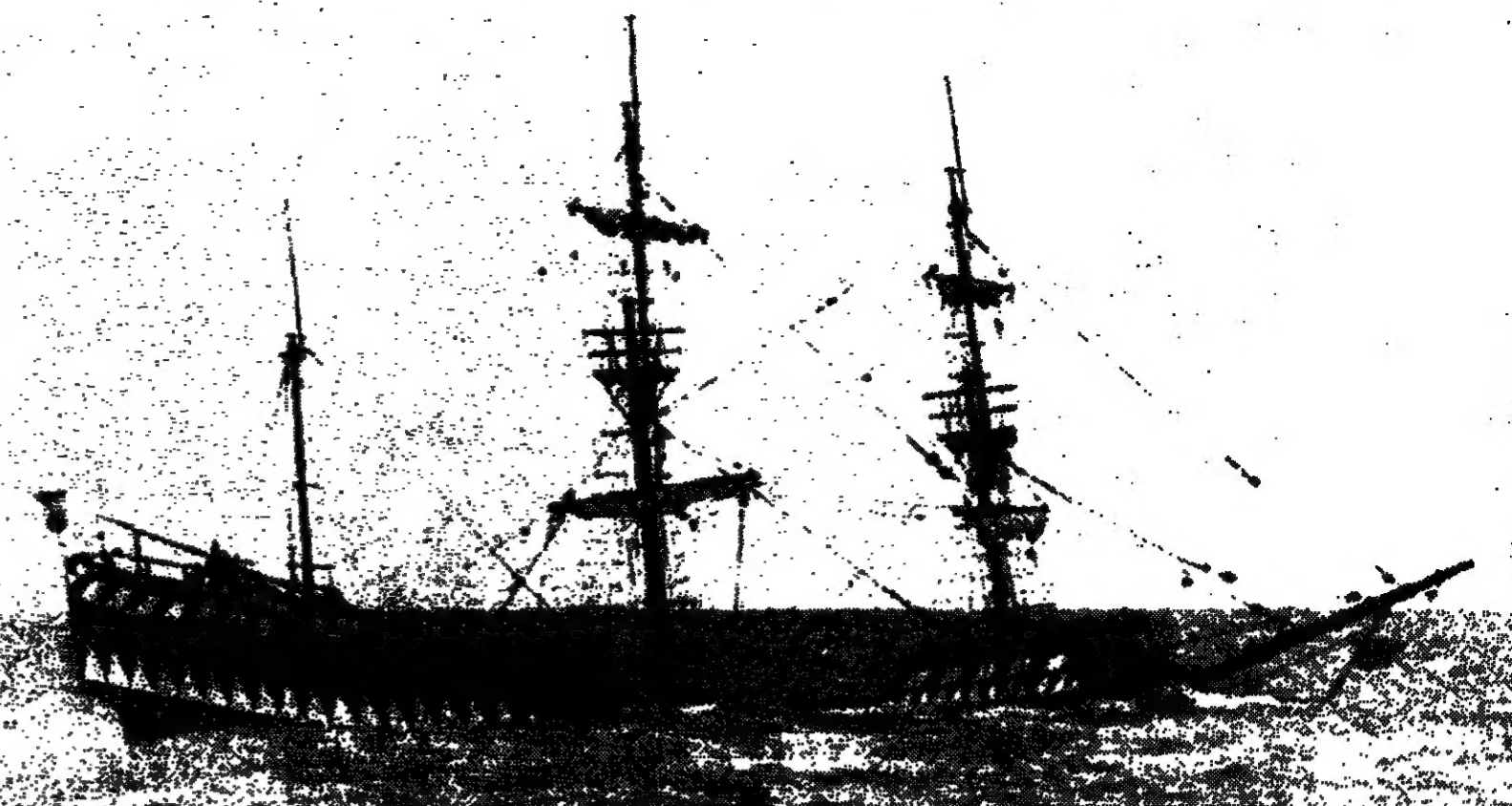
The report says the most effective safeguard to academic freedom is an ethos of openness and tolerance. It points out that Ruskin has long-standing links with the trade union movement. Most of its governing body, many of its staff and most of its students have been or are associated with trade unions and workers' organizations.

Because of the relationship, there was a particular need for vigilance.

There had been "misunderstandings", the report says, which had arisen from a paper on academic freedom prepared by the college's academic advisers.

The paper was "not as carefully drafted in all respects

Last minutes of Golden Hind replica



Going down... replica of the Golden Hind just after crew had been taken off yesterday.

By Andrew Morgan

A replica of Sir Francis Drake's flagship, the *Golden Hind*, yesterday sank in high seas as it was being towed from Brixham to Dartmouth in south Devon for work on its hull.

In spite of operating pumps, the 102ft ship started to take water off the East Blackstone rocks at the entrance to the Dart. The crew of seven,

including the owner, Mr John Read, was taken off by the Brixham tug, *Pendragon*, which was pulling it.

The ship, worth £150,000, later drifted towards the mouth of the river, where only the mast and parts of the stern were visible. The coastguard monitored its movement as it drifted and became a hazard to shipping.

Mr Read said: "It was a terrible

sight to see her go under, but at the time it was such a shock I did not think of the danger. I had no reason to worry about the trip when we left because the forecast was good, but it proved to be rougher than we expected."

"As the ship rolled, some of the dry planking started letting in water but we only ran into trouble when the bilge pump collapsed and the salvage pump

got clogged up. All we could do was try to strip down the pump as quickly as possible, but the water rose too quickly as we were working and soon we were awash."

The ship started out as a fishing vessel in 1945 and was later converted into a replica of the *Golden Hind*, in which Drake circumnavigated the globe from 1577 to 1580.

Cornish farmers will try to follow French example

Resting casually on a cushion in Mr John Hosking's dining room at Trevanion Farm near Gwihian in Cornwall were three modest-sized plastic sacks.

Mr Hosking worked out their value on his son's calculator. All things being equal and barring frost, pestilence or a collapse of the market they should yield between their cauliflower to the retail value of £1,649,340.

Codebric, the co-operative representing 200 Cornish vegetable growers, will receive enough of the seed to plant 2,000 acres of the vegetables yielding a total value of nearly £4 million.

Healthy sums, Mr Hosking admitted, but there was still a long way to go before farmers in Cornwall achieved the co-operation and commercial success their counterparts in Brittany enjoyed.

Trevanion is a family farm that Mr John Hosking inherited from his father. It covers 240 acres of rolling hilltop about 15 miles from Land's End, in that quarter of Cornwall normally favoured by a mild winter.

The land will yield a fine crop of winter cauliflower, early potatoes and spring cabbage long before farms further up country are able to supply the market.

"That is the theory anyway", Mr Hosking said. "Last year it broke down completely with four nights of strong frost. It is not simply the weather that can affect what you earn. I send off a lorry load of produce up to Pershore four nights a week without having the faintest idea of how much I am going to get for it."

"A small operation would only be scratching a living, but I enjoy the life. It is what I have known for more than forty years. I like the rewards that can come although nothing is guaranteed. Jack Frost can snatch it all away. But if you do not mind getting your hands dirty or living on a knife edge, then it is a good life."

Cornish farmers, he thought, were gradually losing their stubborn independence. They had co-operated over developing a better quality of seed which had greatly improved results and with the example of the Breton farmers they appreciated what could

National attention will be focused this week on the economic plight of Cornwall. The Prince of Wales, Chancellor of the Duchy of Cornwall and the county's principal land owner, presides over a conference at Newquay on Friday entitled *Cornwall, the Way Ahead*. Industrial and community leaders will present a strategy to exploit its natural assets. Ronald Faux, *Employment Affairs Correspondent*, talks to two farmers in Cornwall and Brittany.

be achieved by co-operative effort.

Mr Jean-Guy Gueguen farms only 50 acres alongside the seashore at Carantec in North Finistere helped by his wife, Nicole, and one other worker producing cauliflowers, artichokes, iceberg lettuce and shallots.

It is the size of farm that would be hard pressed to succeed in Cornwall but the system of auctioning, selling, marketing and transporting the produce for export does allow a reasonable return for the 6,000 farmers in Finistere.

Mr Gueguen said that about 15 years ago the Breton farmers were being squeezed so hard they had been forced to take co-operative action. Since then La SICA de St Pol de Leon and its powerful economic committee had taken over control of vegetable production and marketing.

It had successfully pressed for government funding to deepen the harbour at Roscoff to allow roll-on roll-off ferries to use the port and had then taken a majority shareholding in Brittany Ferries.

"Previously no one wanted to come to this far corner of France. Now we have a much healthier tourist industry and we export our vegetables and import fish", he said.

SICA guaranteed a minimum return to the farmers and an assured standard of quality to the customers through the Brittany Prince trade mark. It is exactly that example the Cornish farmers seek to follow.

Firm may close after Post Office blunder

By Craig Seton

A businessman said yesterday that his expanding company is facing ruin because of a disastrous mistake by the Post Office.

Mr Ronald Taylor, who rears 20,000 rare birds to produce feathers used by game fishermen, said he had to pay £50,000 compensation to a new Japanese customer after the blunder by the parcels service.

He has protested to the Prime Minister because the Post Office told him that it was not legally obliged to reimburse his company.

Mr Taylor runs Fisherman's Feathers from an old mill at Crowan, near Camborne, Cornwall.

He said the Post Office in Camborne wrongly told him that the maximum weight of parcels for Japan was 16 kilos, when in fact it was only 10.

Seven overweight parcels containing feathers worth

£28,000 were not delivered to the new customer in Osaka and remained in London for a month.

Mr Taylor said: "My Japanese customer was furious. He cancelled all existing orders and told me he wanted nothing to do with me again."

"The Post Office's solicitors wrote this week to say they were sympathetic and that although I could prove negligence, I should not bother to sue because the Post Office is protected by an Act of Parliament."

"It is absolutely dreadful. I am winding up my business which had a potential to take on another 40 people. It was completely geared to the Japanese market and until I started using the Post Office, it was successful. Now it is in chaos."

"Without compensation, I do not see how I can continue."

The Post Office said it was investigating.

The trouble with telephones is they're all talk. How much better if you could use them to access information whilst talking at the same time.

It sounds like something in the future, but it's not. You can have it today with the new IBM 8750 Business Communications System.

The 8750 is a digital switching system that allows you to transmit or receive data over the phone—but still keep on talking.

Plug your desktop computer into your telephone and the 8750 does the rest.

You can then tap into your own data sources, or access external data services such as the Stock Exchange or Reuters (to name but two), whilst discussing matters with someone at the other end of the line.

Problem-solving is speeded up because the

8750 lets you rapidly pull together all the data you need to make decisions.

Less time is wasted on telexing and faxing. And since the 8750 works as well between floors as it does between continents, efficiency is improved in every part of the business.

The 8750 can handle up to 3,000 extensions. That means even in the largest companies everyone can benefit.

But the 8750 is much more than an advanced phone system. It's a step towards the day when all organisations will have integrated communications systems that can interact with each other.

As that day gets nearer it may be useful to remember two things.

First, so its customers stay ahead of the game, IBM is building on the 8750 to develop

a full range of advanced telecommunications products. Second, start keeping your glasses close to the phone.

For more information and a copy of the Executive Guide to the IBM 8750, send this coupon to: Sarah Pym, The National Enquiry Centre, IBM United Kingdom Limited, 414 Chiswick High Rd, London W4 5TE. Or telephone 01-747 0775.

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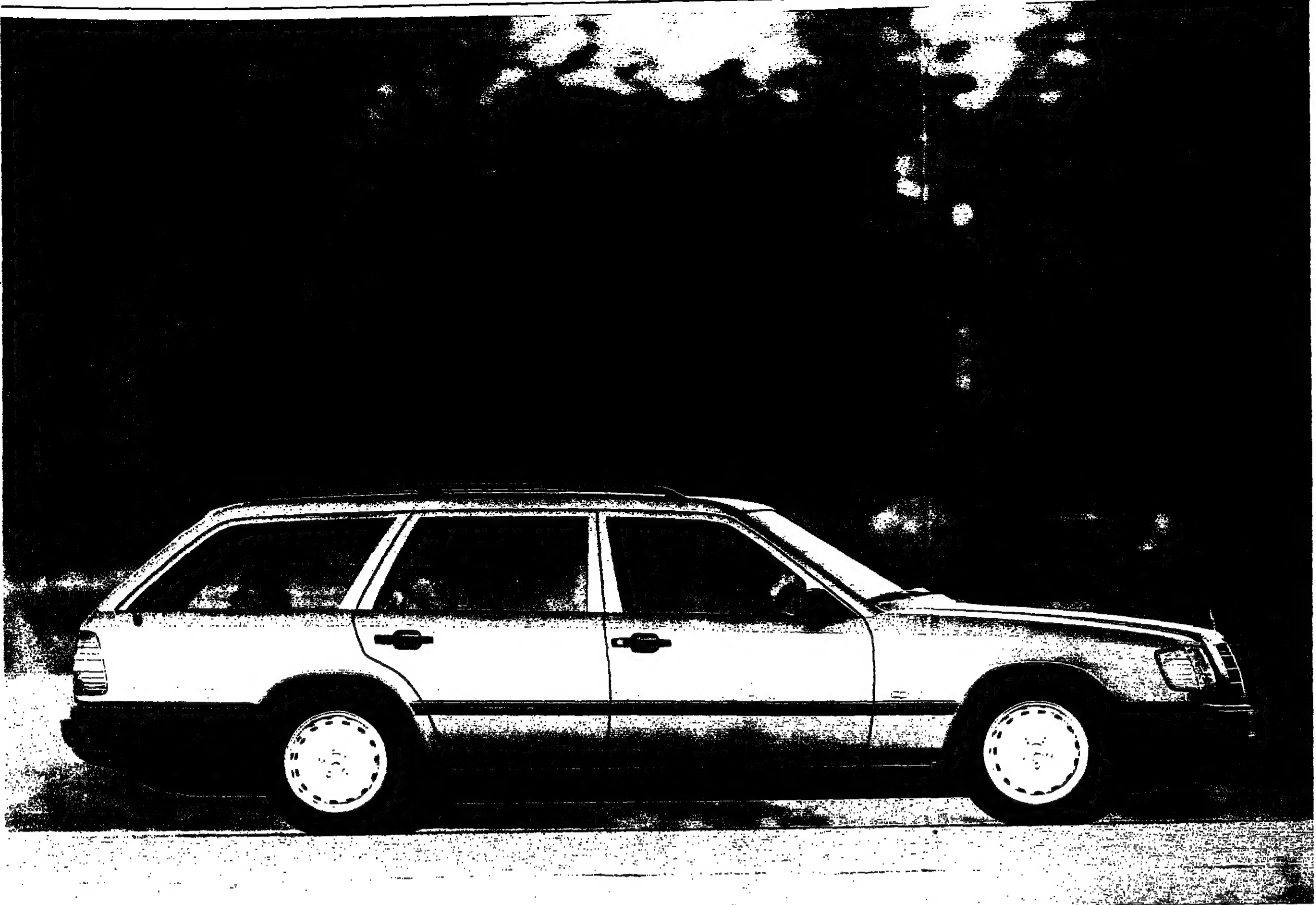
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THE MERCEDES-BENZ T-SERIES: 200T, 230TE, 300TE and 250TD.

Mercedes-Benz prove it once again. An estate doesn't have to be ugly and boring.

You may choose a Mercedes-Benz estate for practical reasons but you'll soon come to think of it as an inspired choice. No other estate car is so admired. Then again, no other estate car is engineered like a Mercedes-Benz.

The T-series didn't start life as a saloon car stretched to accommodate extra loads. It started life as an estate car, purpose designed. And functional though it is, it's one of the most elegant cars in production today.

Clean-cut, sleek looks add significantly to its slipperiness, evidenced by a drag coefficient of just 0.34. An impressive figure when you consider the priority Mercedes-Benz put on the practical nature of an estate car. Other innovative technical achievements are equally significant.

Under the bonnet of the 300TE lies a powerful engine featuring microprocessor controlled ignition and electro/mechanical fuel injection. The single overhead cam, straight six delivers 188 bhp from its 3 litres and the four-speed automatic box has both sport and economy settings.

The performance, as a result of all this meticulous technical nurturing, is remarkable. Without any undue stress, to either engine or driver, the 300TE can gracefully exceed 130 mph. Should you wish to pass 60 mph in the shortest possible time it will take less than 9 seconds (manufacturer's figures).

The much sought after 200T and 230TE share the same aerodynamic good looks but have very efficient 2 litre and 2.3 litre, four cylinder engines, respectively. The 250TD has an even more economical 2.5 litre, five cylinder, diesel engine. To prove the point, official figures for the 250TD, 5-speed manual are 29.7 mpg in the simulated urban cycle, 48.7 mpg at a constant 56 mph and 36.2 mpg at a constant 75 mph. Yet the diesel is capable of over 100 mph (manufacturer's figure).

As you'd expect from a Mercedes-Benz the roadholding is very sure-footed. On all T-series the multi-link rear suspension system incorporates a self-levelling device, so irrespective of the load carried and the road surface, they retain their composure.

The wide-opening tailgate glides up and down on two gas-filled struts. It even has its own electric motor to pull it firmly shut. The exceptional load space has a flat floor, is clear of any obstructions and can be progressively enlarged to accommodate bigger loads.

Not only is there plenty of room for unusually long and awkward shapes but plenty of ways to fit them in. The rear seat can be divided and the front passenger seat folds back to give five different load space combinations.

Besides loads of room there are loads of seats. An optional, rear-facing, retractable row of seats suitable for two children, increases to seven the number of people a T-series can carry in comfort.

"Performance Car," who recently tested a 300TE against its two main competitors, called it "Superbly engineered and executed with a degree of attention to detail that neither of the others can match."

All this adds up to the T-series being not just a practical car but a desirable object, to boot.



Engineered like no other car in the world.

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Hyde Par
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By John Young, A
The country will come to town
on an unprecedented scale
when 70 acres of Hyde Park
London are used for an agri-
cultural show.

It will be the biggest event
to be staged in a royal park since
the Great Exhibition of 1851
and is expected to attract more
than 500,000 visitors.

Permission has been
previously granted by the Queen
The Duke of Edinburgh
chairman of the organising
committee.

The three-day show
spring 1989 will include
breeds of pigs, sheep, cows
other livestock, agricultural
machinery and a celebration
of British food.

Companies warned of prosecutions on data protection

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The first prosecutions over the estimated 100,000 companies and individuals who have still failed to register under the Data Protection Act 1984 are expected soon.

The right of people to inspect their files comes into force tomorrow.

More than 150,000 fines held by government departments, local authorities, banks, companies or individuals will be taken from tomorrow to inspect the files of individuals who want to know what personal information is stored on them.

The new law, which is a key provision of the Data Protection Act 1984, will enable everyone — man, woman and child (at the age of 16 and over) — to ask for a copy of the file, have it corrected and, in the last resort, be compensated where any damage has been suffered.

The Act is also expected to lead to a tripling in complaints from the public about the inaccurate or misuse of information to around some 1,000 a year. Complaints from tomorrow can be enforced by the Data Protection Registrar under new powers.

Mr Eric Howe, the registrar, said yesterday: "Complaints to us are already running at about one a day."

A third of those are concerned with unsolicited mail.

School or college records, the Police National Computer, files kept by banks and building societies, personnel records and local authority records will be open from tomorrow to inspection.

There will be no right to see manual records, however, or medical or social work records in certain cases.

There is also a general exemption from any records held for national security, the prevention or detection of crime, for prosecuting offenders or tax collection.

People wanting access to a file should first write to the organization holding it saying they wish to exercise their rights under the Act. A request must be met within 40 days.

The next biggest problem is financial complaints (over refusal of credit or credit references) about 10 per cent are over inaccurate computer files which people have managed to see and a similar percentage over misuse of information by the holder.

The right of access will also help to identify computer users who have failed to submit an entry on the central register, stating what data they have and for what use.

Mr Howe estimated that there were still 100,000 to 150,000 computer users who

knowingly or unknowingly are breaking the law. He thought they were mainly small businesses.

Spot checks had been done on about 2,000 organisations last year through a series of 13 regional investigations. When people had been notified or realized they should register and that not doing so was a criminal offence, they were obviously flouting the law and could be prosecuted.

Failure to register is a criminal offence carrying an unlimited fine or six months' imprisonment. "We have not really said we will use these powers," Mr Howe said.

If people suspected someone held a file on them, but were not being given it, they could complain to him and his staff would investigate.

Computer users can face criminal proceedings by the registrar and his staff if they do not apply to be included on the new central register of data users or if they do not comply with standards of good practice.

Judging by the number of inquiries to see credit files under the Consumer Credit Act, the right of access may be widely used. Tens of thousands of inquiries are made a year to the two main credit reference agencies.

Mrs Runcie's plea for homeless



Mrs Runcie, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, talking to young hostel residents yesterday at the launch of this year's Crisis at Christmas appeal.

Mrs Runcie was joined by Mr Ian McCaskill, the BBC weather forecaster, in drawing attention to the growing number of young homeless people and appealing for £200,000.

They made the appeal at Intake, a hostel for the homeless aged between 18 and 25 in Camden Town, north London.

One resident aged 23 said she had lived in squats since the age of 15 after frequently

running away from home from the age of 12. She was referred to Intake by social workers.

Another resident aged 18 said she had been at the hostel for seven months after serving a six-month jail sentence for causing actual bodily harm. She hopes to share a flat.

This Christmas London's down and outs will be given food, clothing and shelter for Christmas week at a disused factory in south-east London.

Each year, the charity supplies funds for more than 100 hostels and resettlement schemes in the country. (Photograph: John Rogers)

P&O cancels party for MPs before vote

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The P&O shipping group yesterday cancelled a reception planned for MPs who support the Felixstowe Dock and Railway Bill in Parliament, which the group has been promoting.

The Bill, a private one, would authorize a 225-acre development of the port of Felixstowe, which the company owns. An all-night sitting on the Bill is expected tonight.

The invitation was criticized by Labour MPs, although P&O denied that it was holding a champagne party, and said it was custom and practice to offer refreshment to MPs on such occasions.

However, the P&O subsidiary P&O Harbours, announced that it had cancelled tonight's reception.

Firms in challenge on blast ruling

The designers, builders and owners of the Abbeyfield pumping station launched an attempt in the Court of Appeal yesterday to clear themselves of blame for an explosion which killed 16 people.

They are challenging a High Court ruling which opened the way for an estimated £3 million damages claim by 31 injured survivors, and relatives of the dead, over the disaster in May 1984.

In March, Mr Justice Rose ended a three-year battle for compensation after hearing 138 hours of evidence from 37 witnesses. He awarded each survivor a £3,500 interim payment, and their costs.

The disaster happened during a public relations visit by villagers from St Michael's on Wyre, Lancashire. Civil engineers who designed the plant were found to be 55 per cent to blame.

They charged Mr David Gorman, QC, told the appeal judges there was enough evidence in the firm's favour which Mr Justice Rose had been wrong to dismiss.

It was a "unique disaster" which had taken the water industry and consulting engineering profession completely by surprise.

In an appeal which may last several weeks, the designers and the plant's operators, the North-west Water Authority, together with the builders, Edmund Nutall and Co, seek to overturn the judge's decision or win a new trial.

Supervising charities: 2

Reform sought in management style

Each year about 4,000 charities are formed, adding to the estimated 275,000 that exist in the United Kingdom. By no means all of those register with the Charity Commission.

Its writ does not run in either Scotland or Northern Ireland, even in England and Wales unknown thousands of charities claim tax and rate relief, perfectly legally, without joining the 160,000 organizations on its register of charities.

The charity world is set to grow. Government policy is to encourage charitable giving, for example through the payroll donation scheme introduced last April. Its plans for education envisage that if schools decide to opt out of local authority control, they could apply for charitable status: just like most of the independent schools, and the Government's new city technology colleges.

Even if only a fraction of primary and secondary schools maintained by councils opted to receive grants directed from the Government instead, that could add thousands of bodies to the charitable sector and, incidentally, pose the Treasury with considerable financial problems as they would all become eligible for tax relief.

Mr Stuart Sexton, founder of Warrington Park School, a private venture started in 1980 that recently acquired charitable status, and an influential lobbyist for changes in educational policy, said that the Government ought to prepare a model application for admission to the register of charities that the opted-out schools could all use, to avoid delays and paperwork.

He said the Charity Commission had not requested his school's accounts since it registered. "We have found that a much better way of controlling the audit of our accounts is through private company; the Companies Act requires us to make regular financial returns open to public inspection, which is a very effective way of assuring our beneficiaries and potential donors."

Mr Sexton's view would probably be endorsed by the National Audit Office which, when it reported earlier this year, took a dim view of the failure of many charities even to prepare annual accounts, let

The Government wants to encourage charities. Its plans for schools could, for example, lead to the creation of thousands of charitable bodies. But recent reports say it must first reorganize the way charities are supervised. David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent, reports.

alone forward them to the Charity Commission or make them available for public inspection.

The problem identified by the audit office and by a recent Home Office scrutiny of the Charity Commission was not so much the absence of controls as their haphazard nature.

The Inland Revenue devotes considerable manpower to checking that charities are not fraudulently claiming tax exemptions, but it exchanges notes with the Charity Commission only occasionally and, the scrutineers said, the tax office and the commissioners often worked at cross purposes.

Having commissioned a scrutiny of the Charity Commission from Sir Philip Woodfield, one of its own former officials who has become Security Services Ombudsman, the Home Office is going to find it difficult not to accept its recommendations for strengthening the commission's supervisory powers.

Sir Philip asked for extra commissioners and managerial reforms within the commission itself to allow it to force charities to account in much more detail for their income and expenditure.

Many people think that because a charity is registered with the commission that guarantees the good faith of the people running it on its behalf on the doorstep. That is not so, Sir Philip says, and considerable sums are going to have to be spent on computers and staff to bring it up to date.

At that point the Home Office has a problem. Where is the money going to come from to enhance the powers of the Charity Commission? The Treasury has suggested it charges charities for the privilege of registration.

Concluded

Hyde Park plays host to a farming showcase

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The country will come to town on an unprecedented scale when 70 acres of Hyde Park in London are used for an agricultural show.

It will be the biggest event to be staged in a royal park since the Great Exhibition of 1851 and is expected to attract more than 500,000 visitors.

Permission has been expressly granted by the Queen. The Duke of Edinburgh is chairman of the organizing committee.

The three-day show in spring 1989 will include hundreds of pigs, sheep, cows and other livestock, agricultural machinery and a celebration of British food.

It marks the 150th anniversary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the centenary of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Countryside and conservation organizations are expected to remind Londoners of their rural heritage.

The organizers hope the show will prove that, although there are uncertainties facing farming, hostility towards the EEC's common agricultural policy and condemnation of many modern farming practices, Britain's largest industry still plays a fundamental role in the economy and in the life of its people.



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THE WORLD'S NO 1

The more you put down, the less you pay out.

Buy a new Fiesta,* Escort or Orion between October 15 and December 15 and choose how you pay. 20% deposit (9.5% APR) or 50% deposit (4.8% APR).

These days you can buy almost any car you like on credit. The question is, though, on whose terms? The manufacturers? Or yours?

As you can see, Ford do their best to be flexible. They offer a choice of finance plans so that you can choose whichever fits your circumstances best.

Briefly, here are the details.

Either you can put down a minimum deposit

of 20% in which case the interest rate is 4.9% (APR 9.5%). Or you can make a higher deposit, 50% or more, in which case the interest rate is lower, 2.5% (APR 4.8%).

Furthermore, your deposit can be in the form of cash, or a trade-in or a combination of both. So your present car can help you pay for your new one.

To decide which alternative might suit you

best, study the examples below. We've made the figures as clear as possible!

Or, better still, pay a visit to your Ford dealer and he'll explain in detail.

These finance plans are scheduled to run until December 15. But don't leave your decision too long. Due to demand some of the models on offer could be in short supply.



Fiesta 1.4 Ghia

FIESTA*	950 POPULAR	1.4 GHIA	XR3i	1.6L DIESEL
Cash price (inc. delivery)	£4853.14	£7407.86	£7499.78	£6863.74
9.5% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£970.63	£1481.57	£1499.96	£1372.75
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£123.70	£188.82	£191.16	£174.95
Charge for Credit	£570.69	£871.23	£881.94	£807.21
Total Credit Price	£5423.83	£8279.09	£8381.72	£7670.95
4.8% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£2426.57	£3703.93	£3749.89	£3431.87
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£72.46	£110.60	£111.98	£102.48
Charge for Credit	£181.99	£277.67	£281.39	£257.41
Total Credit Price	£5035.13	£7685.53	£7781.17	£7121.15

ESCORT	1.3L 3-door	1.4LX	1.6GL DIESEL	XR3i with anti-lock brakes
Cash price (inc. delivery)	£6854.85	£7648.50	£8373.90	£9288.14
9.5% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£1370.97	£1529.70	£1674.78	£1857.63
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£174.72	£194.95	£213.44	£236.74
Charge for Credit	£806.04	£899.40	£984.72	£1092.13
Total Credit Price	£7660.89	£8547.90	£9358.62	£10380.27
4.8% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£3427.43	£3824.25	£4186.95	£4644.07
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£102.35	£114.20	£125.03	£138.68
Charge for Credit	£257.18	£286.95	£314.13	£348.41
Total Credit Price	£7112.03	£7935.45	£8698.03	£9636.55



Escort 1.4LX



Orion 1.6 Ghia

ORION	1.3L	1.4LX	1.6GL DIESEL	1.6 GHIA
Cash price (inc. delivery)	£7234.80	£7740.42	£8612.27	£9310.82
9.5% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£1446.96	£1548.08	£1722.45	£1862.16
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£184.41	£197.29	£219.52	£237.32
Charge for Credit	£850.92	£910.10	£1012.90	£1094.86
Total Credit Price	£8085.72	£8650.52	£9625.17	£10405.68
4.8% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£3617.40	£3870.21	£4306.14	£4655.41
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£108.02	£115.57	£128.59	£139.02
Charge for Credit	£271.32	£290.31	£323.11	£349.31
Total Credit Price	£7506.12	£8030.73	£8935.38	£9660.13

Except Fiesta Bonus. The above Low Rate Finance Plan is subject to credit approval and applies to Fiesta, Escort and Orion cars and estate cars registered between October 15th and December 15th 1987 and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements arranged by participating Ford dealers and underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and credit worthy. Please note various factory fitted options are available at extra cost. †Maximum retail price as at October 15th 1987 including delivery.



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WORLD SUMMARY

Buthelezi offer of talks to Mbeki

Johannesburg — As four more deaths were reported yesterday from the strife-riven black townships around Pietermaritzburg in Natal, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the Zulu leader, said he was prepared to discuss the situation with Mr Govan Mbeki, the former national chairman of the outlawed African National Congress who was released from 23 years in jail on Robben Island last Thursday (Michael Hornsby writes).

It is unlikely that Mr Mbeki would agree to meet Chief Buthelezi, who is regarded as a "sell-out" by the ANC, let alone go to Ulundi, capital of the KwaZulu tribal homeland of which he is Chief Minister.

Leading article, page 15

Signature Fans hope doubted for release

Jerusalem — Dr Julius Grant, the noted forensic chemist and expert on paper, testified yesterday that a disputed signature on a wartime identity card is unlikely to be that of John Demjanjuk, who is accused of war crimes at Treblinka (A Correspondent writes).

He was referring to a signature on a Nazi identity card which the prosecution claims was issued to Mr Demjanjuk, who maintains that the card is a Soviet forgery.

Italy in atom review

Rome — Early projections suggested last night that Italy's electorate, in a referendum completed yesterday, would vote for the abolition of laws encouraging government subsidies for nuclear power (Roger Boyes writes).

The projections were made, however, before the polls had closed and on the basis of an unusually small turn-out. The abolition of the nuclear laws — which among other things regulate local council rights to determine the siting of atomic plants — will not mean the end of the nuclear option, but will put pressure on Parliament to present new laws.

Kohl wins US bases party vote deal delay

Bonn — Chancellor Kohl was re-elected leader yesterday of West Germany's troubled Christian Democrats by a party congress in Bonn, but scored his worst result in 14 years as party chairman (John England writes).

The only candidate, he won 80.8 per cent of the total vote, compared with 91.7 per cent two years ago.

He described the result as a "call to continue to do my duty", but his poor performance was blamed on ill-fitting in the party over a "dirty tricks" election campaign affair in Schleswig-Holstein in September.

Soviet young lashed

Moscow — A backlash against recent official sympathy shown to the problems of Soviet youth was launched yesterday with an open letter in *Pravda* from three leading Soviet authors who asserted that it was time to stop paying attention to the young; they needed only hard physical work to solve their problems (Christopher Walker writes).

The letter, seen by liberal intellectuals as further evidence of conservative moves to slow the pace of Soviet change, was prompted by an award to the makers of the Soviet film *It Is Easy to Be Young* which dealt sympathetically with the problems of the younger generation, from punks to "veterans" of the Afghan war. The letter was written by Yuri Bondarev, Vasily Belov and Valentin Rasputin.

Dole enters race with tax pledge

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Senator Robert Dole, the Republican minority leader in the Senate and President Ford's vice-presidential running mate in 1976, formally declared his candidacy yesterday for the Republican nomination.

"I offer a record, not a résumé," the sharp-tongued Kansan said in Rushville, a town in his home state. "I offer the strength and determination — moulded in America's small-town heartland and tempered during a career of public service — to bring common sense answers to the complex problems facing America in its third century."

The tough Kansan is running second to Vice-President George Bush in the opinion polls and is seen as the only man able to overtake the front-runner.

But, despite a formidable and recently strengthened campaign team, Mr Dole's

momentum has slowed in recent weeks. Many of his supporters are urging him to give up the Republican leadership to concentrate on his campaign.

Mr Dole, aged 64, has played a central role in enacting President Reagan's legislation as Senate majority leader, until the Republicans lost control last year.

Since then he has been involved deeply in the vain effort to nominate Judge Robert Bork to the Supreme Court and in the current budget deficit negotiations.

Mr Dole yesterday sought to distinguish his record from that of the Reagan presidency.

The only candidate refusing to give a pledge not to raise taxes during the recent Republican debate, Mr Dole insisted yesterday that he would tackle the runaway federal budget head-on without raising taxes.

UN food agency head wins a third term

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Dr Edouard Saouma yesterday beat off the challenge from a rival backed by the United States and Britain to retain the leadership of the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations' big-spending development agency.

Diplomatic sources said that the surprise 94-59 victory of the Lebanese Maronite Christian — with his reputation for autocratic management — came about because of a last-minute collapse in the African vote.

On Sunday night agriculture ministers from the 50 of the Organisation of African Unity countries met secretly in Rome to reaffirm their support for Dr Saouma's rival, the Benin-born Mr Moise Mensah. Britain, the United States, Australia, Canada and the Scandinavian nations had already declared their support for the 54-year-old African agronomist, who

helps to run an agricultural development bank based in Rome.

With other votes from Latin America and some Asian states, that should have been enough to give Dr Saouma a close run for the leadership.

When Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow was ousted recently as Unesco chief, it seemed to send a signal to the FAO and other United Nations agencies. Like Mr M'Bow, Dr Saouma was seeking a third six-year term of office. And the defeat of an African (Mr M'Bow is from Senegal) made it feasible for an African to succeed at FAO.

Instead, when it came to a secret ballot, the Africans broke ranks. Some diplomats estimate that only about a dozen of the 50 African nations can have cast their vote for the African candidate.

The mood at the FAO Rome headquarters — built by Mussolini to administer Ethiopia — was tense



Dr Saouma after his voting victory in Rome yesterday.

and, in the corridors, noisy with re-creation. The crucial factor in the election was to be France, which had been persuading francophone African countries that Dr Saouma

was still the best man for the job.

The big Western donors, such as the US, Canada and Britain, were yesterday suspicious about the sudden turnaround in the fortunes of Dr Saouma. It is relatively easy for the incumbent — as in all political elections — to use his position to pick up votes. He was guaranteed the 18 votes of the League of Arab States, those of a number of Asian countries, France and, surprisingly, West Germany. The election system is one nation, one vote, so it made little difference that many of the donors were against him. The technique in such an election is to woo small nations, as they can easily cancel out the disgruntled larger countries.

"Now he will have to show that he really deserves this third term," a Western minister commented. "We want more than this lip-service on reform."

The problems facing the FAO are acute. There is a budget crisis,

aggravated by the fact that the UN Congress is withholding funds from UN agencies. But the weak dollar also hurts the FAO, which receives most of its income in dollars. There is criticism, too, that it duplicates aid work carried out, sometimes more cost-effectively, by other agencies. And there is unhappiness among the Western donors about what is considered to be the inflated bureaucracy of the FAO staff.

Dr Saouma rejects some, but not all, of these criticisms. He argues that the FAO still has an important role to play — indeed, he largely created it — and that the answer is more, not less, money. But all the points raised by the candidates of Mr Mensah still have to be answered. Mr Mensah had committed himself to introducing closer co-operation between the Western donors and the Third World recipients, to tighten financial accountability and to establish a more open style of management.

Drama of boat 'hijack' gives way to Middle East mystery

From Robert Fisk, west Beirut

The strange case of Silco, the "hijacked" motor yacht, remained unresolved last night, after a claim by the Palestinian Abu Nidal organization to have seized its eight European passengers in the eastern Mediterranean was met with blank incomprehension by the governments of at least three countries, including Israel.

According to a spokesman for the Abu Nidal group — the most notorious and savage of Palestinian assassination squads — guerrillas returning from a raid in the occupied Gaza Strip captured the boat and its eight occupants at sea, and identified six of them as holders of Israeli as well as Belgian passports. The other two, the group said, were Hebrew-speaking children.

One report even suggested that a woman passenger was a British citizen, although there was no confirmation. Last night, however, the Abu Nidal spokesman in Beirut said that six Europeans were being interrogated as "Israeli spies".

Despite the puzzlement among governments, Palestinian gunmen drove through the huge Palestinian camp at Ein el-Hilwe, just outside Sidon, broadcasting a loudspeaker statement to refugees claiming that no harm would befall their prisoners if Israel desisted from its air attacks against Palestinian targets in Lebanon.

But the Israelis yesterday expressed their ignorance of the incident and said that none of the names released by Abu Nidal in Beirut — five of them were called Houtekins — was listed as an Israeli citizen. Belgian authorities, however, identified four of the names as Belgian citizens living in the French city of Lyons.

There was even confusion about the 17-ton Silco, which had apparently been tied up alongside the quayside at Cannes for as long as three years. Its registration number was different from that dis-

closed by the Abu Nidal group in Beirut and its crew unknown. The age of one of the passengers was given differently in Beirut and Brussels, and Jewish authorities in Belgium said that the names of the passengers did not even sound Jewish.

What therefore started out as a potential hostage drama, with political and military implications throughout the Middle East, had by last night turned into a mystery which neither Abu Nidal's men nor the governments of Israel, Belgium and France appeared in any position to solve.

The boat certainly exists — or existed — and four of the passengers have been identified. But it was not even known if they were on board the Silco at the weekend.

The original statement by Abu Nidal's spokesman, Mr Walid Khaled, was given in west Beirut on Sunday night amid the former opulence of the old Carlton Hotel. Since Syrian troops patrol that area of the city in strength, it is inconceivable that Mr Khaled could have made a public appearance without the permission of Damascus. Yet there was a growing suspicion in Beirut that — whatever did happen to the Silco and its passengers — it was Libya rather than Syria which was behind it.

One source here suggested that the Silco may have been seized off southern France and its occupants taken to Libya, although there was neither proof nor sufficient motivation to sustain this.

Mr Khaled identified another occupant of the Silco as Jacqueline Valente, aged 30, and the Israelis later said that such a name did appear on a list of tourists visiting Israel and that she was British, not French as the Abu Nidal spokesman had claimed. But there was no confirmation in London of her name or place of residence.



Lorries carrying building materials arriving yesterday at the Palestinian refugee camp of Chatila, in southern Beirut, as part of an Arab League project to rebuild the mosques, schools and hospitals destroyed by years of siege and conflict.

Mitterrand ready to act on scandal

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

President Mitterrand is considering intervening publicly in the arms-for-Iran scandal known as *l'affaire Lacoste*. When, when and how he will do so, let alone what he may say, is another matter.

Despite mounting evidence that the French public wants an explanation of the President's role (if any) and that of the Socialist Party in this latest scandal, the usual "authoritative sources" were more than usually vague, indicating only that it will probably happen this month and that Mitterrand can be expected to come out fighting.

But his intervention is quite possibly against his better instincts and with evident misgivings.

The French have, of course, become accustomed to calculated ambiguity from the

"Sphinx of the Elysee". The Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, his conservative bed-fellow, already bears quite enough scars to prove that Mitterrand is a supreme judge of timing the damaging political intervention.

That may well explain why M Chirac has, so far at least, refrained from exploiting "France's frangite" with the gusto one might expect only six months before the next presidential election.

Not so his colleagues in government. Banned by a weekend opinion poll that showed more than 70 per cent of voters considered the Lacoste scandal a serious business, and that almost two-thirds wanted the President "to speak to the French people", they are now out for blood.

Assad enters Gulf talks with Iraqis

From Ian Murray, Amman

Pressure piled on Syria to settle its differences with Iraq at the Arab summit here yesterday.

But far from walking out of the meeting, as had been feared, President Assad agreed to attend a special session with President Saddam Hussein after a "calm and objective" three-hour discussion of their differences.

The Syrian President had put his case for not breaking relations with Iran during a three-hour session involving all 21 heads of the different delegations. Mr Taber al-Masri, the Foreign Minister of Jordan, said the discussions had been "positive, frank and constructive", and he had emerged optimistic that the summit meant "to transcend the past".

Many delegates spoke of the need to bring Egypt back into

the Arab fold, and the Joint Arab Defence Agreement had been widely discussed. This 1945 pact, which has fallen into disuse, requires the different states to send each other military help in time of need. As the strongest military power in the Arab world, Egypt would be an important new ally to the Gulf states.

Mr Masri said the days of meetings had helped to crystallize issues, although so far no resolutions had started to emerge. Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan said the summit was at last working — in a spirit of "tough perseverance" — to achieve regional unity.

Correction

Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, who was wrongly described in an agency report on November 5 as the son of King Fahd, is the King's half-brother.

Tunisia overthrow ended weeks of rambling confusion

From Paul Valley, Tunis

Bouts of rambling senility, mixed with bloodthirsty demands for the death of his political opponents, characterized the final days of the rule of Habib Bourguiba, who was deposed as President of Tunisia on Saturday.

A highly-placed source, who had regular contact with the ailing President, told *the Times* yesterday of the several weeks of confusion and mental instability which led the Prime Minister, Mr Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali, to consult seven doctors who certified the old dictator as unfit to

govern in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Hours later Mr Ben Ali, who had been Prime Minister for only a month, was sworn in as President.

In previous weeks President Bourguiba, whose official age was 84 but who was thought to be much older, had undergone a rapid mental deterioration.

"It was pretty clear that the President was slipping. His decisions had become capricious. His mind wasn't good. He kept repeating himself and then not remembering what he had just said," the source said.

"One day he signed a decree

for the appointment of new economic ministers and then forgot he had done it. When he found out next day he tried to change it."

The resulting confusion was interpreted publicly as having been caused by a row between the then Prime Minister, Mr Rachid Star, and the President. But its real cause was the developing senility.

A similar confusion arose when Mr Star was dismissed and Mr Ben Ali was appointed. During his month as Prime Minister, Mr Ben Ali spent most of his time trying to cope with the President's changes of mind and the problems they caused."

In the final weeks, the President's behaviour caused great concern among Cabinet ministers, who began to examine the provisions in the Constitution to oust him. A consensus developed among the ministers most close to the President were excluded from discussions. They are now under house arrest, though government officials say privately they will eventually be released without charges.

The final trigger for Mr Ben Ali's dawn coup was a series of strong disagreements over the fate of Islamic fundamentalists accused of treasonable offences.

In September 90 were tried, many in their absence. But President Bourguiba was furious when most were given only prison sentences. Only seven were sentenced to be hanged, and five of those had escaped capture.

"President Bourguiba was absolutely fixed on the death penalty for them all. It was even said that he had demanded a retrial of those already in prison, so that they could receive the death penalty, too. Mr Ben Ali was having great trouble with him."

Yesterday government officers, businesses and shops were running normally in

Tunis. The new Government was showing signs of instituting the more liberal regime it has promised.

Mr Habib Bourguiba Jr., the President's son, who had been under house arrest all weekend, was free and back at his desk in the National Bank of Economic Development. The country's leading trade union official, Mr Habib Achour, was also released from a seven-year imprisonment imposed by the old regime. And the capital's newspapers were, for the first time in years, printing accounts of the views of opposition politicians, many of whom are in exile in Paris.

Croat spending spree belies debt crisis

From Richard Bassett, Zagreb

At first glance Zagreb, the mellow, gas-lit capital of Croatia, Yugoslavia's second largest republic, shows little sign of economic crisis.

In the past few months facades have been renovated, hotels restored, and slabs of marble scattered around interiors ranging in opulence from the palatial Gradska Kavarna cafe to the humble Mr Gavrilovic's salami shop.

"The ship is sinking, and we are finishing the last of the champagne," a young Croat artist said. Like everyone else in Yugoslavia, he is not sure where all the money which is restoring Zagreb has come from.

A few years ago, when Yugoslavia's debts were considerably less than the present £12,500 million, such largesse would have been unthinkable. These would have been the debts forecast days, with the country's debts forecast to reach £25,000 million by 1990, such extravagance has a whiff of *apriori* nous le delonge.

For the Croats, however, money spent on their capital is never wasted. Although Yugoslavia's five million Croats speak the same language as the Serbs, they do not share each other's alphabet, history or religion. For

centuries a bastion of Catholicism against the Turks, Croatia enjoyed the rule of the Habsburgs, while the southern republics languished under the Sultans.

When the kingdom of Yugoslavia was created after the First World War, Croats and Serbs eyed each other with mutual suspicion. This distrust was seen during the Second World War, when they massacred each other in numbers which far exceeded the hundreds of thousands of casualties inflicted on the Yugoslavs by the Wehrmacht.

The Croats have never forgotten the thousands of civilians murdered by Serb partisans after the war. For their part, the Serbs have not forgotten that many Croats collaborated with the Nazis. In the postwar years, one of President Tito's priorities was the dismantling of Croat nationalism.

Suspicious finger to this day and, as the national economic situation deteriorates, old enmities resurface. As Zagreb displays these days, Croatia is a wealthier republic than Serbia or Bosnia-Herzegovina, with much of its prosperity derived from tourism along its celebrated Dalmatian coast. The Croats feel that, in the present crisis,

their wealth is subsidizing an alien culture.

In the Gradska Kavarna, whose customers' average age is more than 60, old partisans shrug their shoulders. "We are Western and our local dialect has many German words, but we must endure the Balkanization of our culture by the Serbs," one says. "We must be silent about our past and are not allowed to recognize our great traditions."

The empty Republic Square at the heart of Zagreb symbolizes for many Croats Belgrade's disregard for Croatia's history. As every Croat knows — even those who were too young to see it — this square until shortly after the war was adorned by a statue of General Jellacic, the 19th-century Croat soldier.

As the Governor of Croatia, the general ruthlessly put down a Hungarian uprising against the Habsburgs in 1848. But the statue depicting Jellacic brandishing his sword towards Hungary recalled days which Communist Yugoslavia wished to forget, and one night it disappeared.

Although every inhabitant of Zagreb is convinced that the statue has been hidden somewhere, they are sure that it will never be restored to the

square because of Belgrade's distrust of the Croats. "Our politicians make such problems even when we perform *Zrinski*, our great national opera, once a year to packed houses," a Croat intellectual said.

In such an unfavourable cultural climate, the embodiment of Croatian traditions remains the Catholic Church. On the Feast of All Souls last week, thousands of Zagreb Catholics queued outside the cathedral for Communion.

Priests in Zagreb, however, complain that religious teaching is often frowned on by the authorities and that the local government has a habit of encouraging noisy cafes to open up next to the Stone Gate, a candle-lit tunnel which has become a shrine and leads to the old town.

In the wake of economic scandals, such as that in the Agrokomerc agricultural enterprise in the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the tensions among ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, the Croats feel that all Yugoslavia's problems are the fault of their Balkan kinsmen to the south.

The Croats are beginning to make it clear that, if and when the crash comes, they at least will collapse in style.

Pressure to open US doors to Irish migrant invasion

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The Irish are flocking to America, arriving at the rate of at least 30,000 a year. They are the VIPs among immigrants, assured of a warm welcome and a job of sorts.

Most are heading for New York, Boston and Philadelphia, where well-established Irish-American organizations ensure that they are well looked after. Boston, where 40 per cent of the population claims Irish ancestry, offers the most hospitable reception.

Other immigrant groups grumble that the Irish receive preferential treatment.

Mayor Raymond Flynn of Boston, whose grandparents came from Galway and Cork, is a key supporter of legislation sponsored by Senator Edward Kennedy and Representative Brian Donnelly, both Massachusetts Democrats, to raise immigration quotas for the Irish and other Europeans. A privately funded pressure

group, the New Irish Immigration Reform Movement, was formed last summer to fight for more liberal immigrant quotas.

Most of the newcomers are young and single and usually do not qualify for legal residence.

In the past five years about 25,000 Irish have settled in Boston, a city of 600,000. Another 50,000 have gone to New York and 75,000 have settled in Philadelphia, Chicago and San Francisco.

They face a shadowy existence, unable to open a bank account or borrow money for a car. "At your work you can be fired right off," Mrs Rosario McDonagh, aged 26, who came as an illegal immigrant but is now married to an American, explained. "If you are snatched by police when driving, your heart stops. You can't plan a future. If something happens to you,

you're afraid to tell."

Immigrants face an even more uncertain future because of the new Immigration Act, which penalizes employers who hire "illegals". Many Irish immigrants are being forced to move around the country in search of work.

The new wave of Irish immigrants began arriving after 1982, so they do not qualify for amnesty under the immigration law. Boston's Irish, both new and old, have launched an intensive campaign for special treatment.

Other immigrant groups say that Boston would never have set up special services for newly-arrived immigrants if it were not for the preoccupation with the Irish. Ms Susan Fizeirich, of the International Institute, a non-profit immigrant aid group, noted that Haitians and Central Americans did not receive the same compassion as the Irish.

Police suspect Tamil Tigers after attack on eve of autonomy debate

Colombo bomb kills 32 and injures 100

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

Thirty-two people were killed and more than 100 injured when a scooter-taxi exploded at a busy junction here yesterday. Witnesses said bodies were thrown in the air by the blast, and one body could be seen in the compound of a police station which has an 8ft wall. Schoolchildren waiting at a bus stop were among the victims. Two Navy personnel on guard duty near by are also missing.

Seventeen vehicles were damaged in the blast and the area resembled a battlefield. Charred bodies were seen in some parts and police said the death toll could be higher.

At one stage the police were jeered when they tried to control the crowds. Some Buddhist monks were seen shaking their fists at the police and insulting President Jayawardene.

State television blamed the proscribed Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (the People's Liberation Front) for the attack. The JVP had threatened violent action today, when a three-day debate to give more autonomy to the provinces, and thereby more power to the Tamils in the Northern and Eastern provinces, starts in Parliament.

But police sources said that the JVP had so far not

attacked civilian targets and believed the explosion might be the work of the Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). This group has pledged to retaliate in the wake of reverses they have suffered at the hands of the Indian peacekeeping force in the Northern and Eastern provinces during the last month.

A hospital employee said that one of the dead men had a talisman with the emblem of the LTTE. Police are investigating the possibility that the bomb was being transported to another area, possibly the main Fort railway station in Colombo or the Pettah bus terminal.

A car bomb in this main bus terminal killed 113 people in April this year.

Police sources said they are expecting trouble in schools and possibly attacks on leading government institutions.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet and the government parliamentary group yesterday decided to delete a section of the legislation on provincial councils and an amendment to the Constitution, which the Supreme Court said in a 5-4 verdict needed a national referendum.



Would-be rescuers in Colombo hurrying to the scene of the bomb explosion that rocked the centre of the city yesterday.

Britain seeks French support in Falkland vote

By Andrew McEwen

Diplomatic Correspondent

With a week to go before the annual United Nations vote on the Falklands, Britain is lobbying hard to avoid a repetition of last year's crushing defeat.

France is expected to come under discreet pressure to repay diplomatic debts it has incurred to Britain. Last

November it was among 116 nations which voted for Argentina by supporting a resolution calling for talks between Buenos Aires and Whitehall.

But since then Britain has helped France to ride out diplomatic pressure stemming from its nuclear tests on Mururoa atoll and from the controversial referendum in New Caledonia, in which

French settlers defeated demands from the ethnic Kanaks for independence.

Britain's decision last April not to sign protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty, designed to make the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone, was prompted by a wish to avoid offending France.

Britain's second overture was its abstention in the UN

Decolonization Committee's recent vote on New Caledonia. Paris showed its anger when the committee originally voted last year to include the French territory in its list of countries to be decolonized.

Britain could have used the New Caledonia follow-up vote this year to rebuke France for its support of Argentina last November, but refrained.

Peasants suffer in civil war

Teenage mother and baby shot in Contra raid

From Charles Bremner, Juigalpa, Nicaragua

Far from the peace diplomacy and the Washington debates, Geraldine Martinez lies in a hospital bed and shows the fresh bullet wound in her back. Though only 16, she has a daughter aged two months. The baby is also in the hospital, without one of her legs.

Down the corridor in the shabby Juigalpa hospital, her 10-year-old sister, Libet, is being treated for shrapnel embedded in her neck. The three survived a pre-dawn attack by Contra rebels on their peasant co-operative, a run-of-the-mill action in Nicaragua's six-year-long civil war.

Their mother and two brothers were killed in the pre-dawn raid last Tuesday on the farm, which was home for two extended campesino families.

Charred ruins are all that remain of the Renaldo Vargas Campos co-operative, a few miles away in the mountainous countryside. The area has just seen some of the bitterest fighting in the campaign by the American-backed Contras to overthrow the Sandinista Government.

Sandinista troops swarmed into the zone over the weekend, after the Managua Government suspended a unilateral ceasefire and promised the Contras no quarter until they laid down their arms or a ceasefire was agreed.

I found the three in the crowded little hospital by chance. No government personnel directed me to them, or drove into Chontales province, a Contra stronghold to the north-east of Managua.

The girls' account spoke for the suffering of the campesinos, trapped in the battle between the American-financed fighters and the Soviet-backed left-wing regime.

"There was no warning. The bombs started exploding and everything caught fire," Geraldine said. She had been up early, cooking tortillas for the men who were guarding the co-operative.

The peasant combines are attacked as "military" targets by the Contras because of the way they are set up. The authorities, who are trying to relocate many peasants into such co-operatives, provide land and equipment in return for agreement by the men to bear arms as militiamen.

The girls' brothers were in the militia. Their father had been killed two years ago before they moved. Geraldine said she hid for a few hours and returned to the farm when the shooting stopped.

"I saw some men in uniform and everything caught fire," Geraldine said. She had been up early, cooking tortillas for the men who were guarding the co-operative.

She wept as she told how she was brought to the farm and found her brothers, Zacharias and Leonso, dead and her mother burnt to death. The Contras burnt down the co-operative and destroyed its food stocks, she says. "They are bad people. I want this war to end."

Local officials on the farm

confirmed the girl's account. The three Martinez were the only dead in the raid, and seven people were wounded.

Nurses said that Geraldine, now the head of the family, was expected to stay in hospital for three months. Her little sister, still shocked from the first rocket explosions that started the attack, tells how she was led out of the house by an armed man, but her mother stayed inside.

It is, of course, impossible to generalize. Reporters who visited battle zones farther north last week said they had been impressed by the civilian support for the Contras, the soldiers President Reagan says are the "moral equivalent" of America's Founding Fathers.

After reports of atrocities two years ago, the Contra forces, who number about 10,000 inside Nicaragua, were given new orders on respecting human rights. They were also given political training on winning hearts and minds.

But in Chontales, random interviews showed deep hostility to them among both town dwellers and peasants.

"They only attack farms and run away," was a common refrain. Support for the Sandinista Army was seen as essential, and deeper into Chontales the Contras are said to be well entrenched. But the Contra campaign to destroy food, take cattle and frighten the peasants out of co-operating with the Government did not seem to be winning them friends here.

An American human rights worker in the zone said the Contras were ruthless with co-operative peasants. "They roll right over them. Everyone they think could be a Sandinista gets shot."

The guerrillas, who are now well armed with rocket launchers and sophisticated radio equipment, staged a daring attack on government vehicles on the main road just east of here two weeks ago.

In a co-ordinated three-pronged action they destroyed a dozen vehicles, pinned down large forces and killed a couple of dozen men. The road, the main route for supplies from the Atlantic ports, was cut off. Burnt-out army trucks bear witness to the action.

On Saturday, as night fell on the sector that had suffered the ambushes, troops moved into position on board Soviet-made Ural trucks. Nervous teenage soldiers, cradling their AK 47 rifles, stopped civilian traffic, saying the road was too dangerous to continue.

The Sandinistas say they have lost 215 dead in the fighting across the country in the past month, against 376 Contras killed. They say that the economic losses since the war began in 1981 are about \$4 billion (\$2.3 billion).

Diplomats in the capital say there is no doubt that the Contra war pressed the Sandinistas into signing the Central American peace plan and deciding last week to negotiate with the rebel leaders.

But there is little optimism in the countryside that the war is near an end.

Ershad confident 'siege' is beaten

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

President Ershad of Bangladesh last night contemplated the threat of chaos in his capital today with something approaching equanimity.

"Already the declared programme has been totally upset, because there is no people," he said, happily recalling the measures that have prevented would-be demonstrators reaching here for what the opposition parties have been calling a "Dhaka siege".

With threatening lorryloads of police and paramilitary border guards standing at key intersections, ferries shut down, and truck and bus owners refusing to carry demonstrators, people have been unable to get very far. The arrest list of middle-rank politicians was admitted by the Home Minister last night to be 1,146, including five MPs.

The railways, too, have declined to carry people here, according to Mr Mujibur Hossain, the Cabinet Secretary. "In order to make certain adjustments to the railways consequent upon the recent floods".

Even the opposition leaders themselves appear to have adapted to the likelihood that they will not bring the Government to its knees. "If they start this oppression, how can the people fight?" asked Sheikh Hasina Wazed, head of the Awami League, one of the principal political groupings, and leader of the parliamentary Opposition.

Dr Abdul Matin, the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister, said that the Government, secure behind its

barricades, plans that "100 per cent" of government officials will turn up for work today. He has 6,000 civilian police and paramilitary forces standing by to counter whatever the demonstrators try.

"What is going to happen we all can visualize," President Ershad told me last night. "There will be some incident here or there. Based on this incident they will call for a strike some day, some agitation, some public meeting, that's all. It will continue as it was in the past."

But still General Ershad, who took power in a military coup in March, 1982, feels he is in command. "Why should I resign?" he asked. "I have been elected by the people. I will resign only by the people's will — that is, through elections."

Nor does he fear a military coup. "I know the Army," he insisted. "I commanded it for eight years. When I took over, I said, Insha Allah, there will be no more military coups. I still hold that view."

The main leaks occurred in coffee and chief foreign exchange. Some four or five hundred million dollars of money

in his latest attack he calls "foreign fiddlers". The Ph the total amount government revenue Kenya shillings 335 million). Co many social service (money) now be from fiddlers," he

Those now facing include five

This man has checked-in at Heathrow, JFK, O'Hare and St. Louis. He's yet to leave home.



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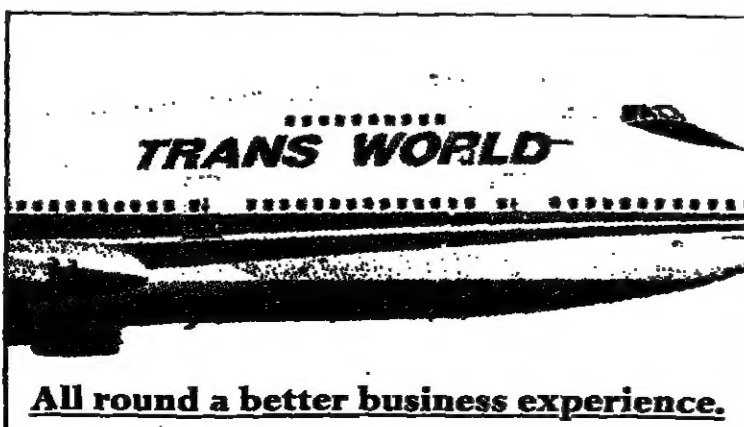
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Weinberger warns US to beware as talks on nuclear tests begin

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Soviet and American delegates met in Geneva yesterday to begin formal negotiations on limiting and eventually halting nuclear testing — the first such talks on this issue since President Reagan came to power.

The return to the negotiating table was a concession made by the US in September during the visit here of Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister. He and Mr. George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, agreed during their discussions on an intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty to hold "full-scale, stage-by-stage negotiations" to limit underground testing and to work out effective verification procedures to enable the US Senate to ratify two earlier test ban treaties.

On coming into office in 1981, President Reagan peremptorily broke off the nuclear test talks periodically held in Geneva with the Soviet Union and Britain. Washington said it would be impossible to verify any agreement, and maintained that testing was essential as long as the West depended on nuclear weapons.

The US also refused to join in the 19-month test moratorium

unilaterally proclaimed by the Soviet Union, saying that the Russians had in the past cheated on such moratoriums. Moscow resumed testing in February.

The US team is headed by Mr. Robert Barker, and the Soviet team by Mr. Igor Pavlenko, deputy chief of the Department for Peaceful Utilization of Nuclear Energy at the Soviet Foreign Ministry. The first round of talks will probably last several weeks.

The two sides will begin by examining verification procedures for two nuclear testing treaties signed by the superpowers but never ratified by the Senate: the 1974 threshold test ban treaty, which set a ceiling of 150 kilotonnes on the size of tests, and the 1976 peaceful nuclear explosions treaty.

Mr. Caspar Weinberger, the outgoing Defence Secretary, has meanwhile said the US has to be careful about any arms agreement with Moscow. It has to be verifiable, given the long Soviet record of cheating, and the US had to keep up its military strength after the agreements were over.

Maintaining his hard line and deep-rooted distrust of

the Russians until the end, Mr. Weinberger said that the Soviet Union was still intent on world domination.

The US had to remain in such a military position "that the Soviets will never feel that their goal of world domination can be reached without unacceptable cost to them."

He did not think Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, was particularly reasonable. He said nobody in the Soviet leadership was going to be allowed to be reasonable from a Western point of view, because he had no doubt that the Soviet goal remained world domination. He had never heard President Reagan say otherwise.

● MOSCOW: Pravda said yesterday that Mr. Weinberger's resignation marked the end of an era "far from the best in American history" (Reuters reports).

Mr. Weinberger had presided over vast military spending and, to the last, tried to torpedo an accord eliminating INF. It remained to be seen if his successor, Mr. Frank Carlucci, would be a better Defence Secretary from Moscow's point of view, as commentators were saying.

Leading article, page 15

Ex-general joins Kim Young Sam's ranks



Mr. Kim Young Sam acknowledging the cheers of supporters yesterday after winning the opposition Democratic Party's presidential nomination at a convention that saw the first appearance in public since 1979, at Mr. Kim's side, of Mr. Chong Sang Hwa, the former Army Chief of Staff.

The former general dropped out of public view when he was falsely linked that year to the assassination of President Park Chung Hee, and his appearance in the camp of Mr. Kim surprised many observers (A Correspondent writes from Seoul).

The charges against Mr. Chong were allegedly part of a plot by the then Lieutenant-General Chun Doo Hwan

and Mr. Roh Tae Woo to seize power in a coup. "He joined our party," Mr. Kim said of Mr. Chong, "because he has full confidence. But we have to have a single candidate from the opposition, and he believes that I should be that candidate."

Mr. Kim was referring to the intention of his erstwhile opposition ally, Mr. Kim Dae Jung, to run against him because neither was prepared to stand down after their tenuous opposition alliance secured constitutional reforms earlier this year.

The two will also face the candidate of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, Mr. Roh Tae Woo, and a former Prime Minister, Mr. Kim Jong Pil.

After receiving the unanimous support

of the party, Mr. Kim Young Sam predicted that he would take more than 50 per cent of the vote in the election scheduled for the middle of next month.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Kim pledged to end 26 years of military rule, to reunify the divided Korean peninsula and to pursue economic growth. He said he would be a friendly President heading a friendly government. Despite decades as an opposition leader, Mr. Kim, aged 59, who last sought presidential nomination in 1971, is regarded as a moderate who can bring change without instability.

He received a degree in philosophy from Seoul National University, yet he is considered the least sophisticated and intellectual of the four contenders.

Election gains for right in Vienna

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

In an unprecedented Vienna local election result, the right-wing, nationalist Freedom Party has quadrupled — from two to eight — its strength on the 100-seat Vienna Municipal Council.

Though the Socialists retain control of the traditional bastion of Austrian socialism, the result, announced yesterday, has highlighted the Freedom Party's increasing popularity.

If it is capable of such a success in Vienna, a city which until yesterday had always been highly sceptical of the party's policies and Germanic profile, it can expect dramatic gains in future local elections.

Under Herr Jörg Haider the party encourages strident nationalist elements which until recently had always been dismissed as an eccentric fringe. In contrast to the conservative People's Party, at whose expense the Freedom Party increased its vote, Herr Haider's politicians cut a forceful, rebellious figure.

The People's Party, which is in coalition with the Socialists, was yesterday devastated, acknowledging that its traditional supporters are deserting in droves.

Malaysian clampdown

'Police state' seen by veteran leader

From David Watts, Kuala Lumpur

Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamed, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, has set up a "police state", according to Tan Sri Abdul Razak, the father of Malaysian independence and founder of the banned newspaper, *The Star*.

He accuses the Government of having "bushed aside the constitution, the law, and they've set up a police state".

Malaysia's first Prime Minister after independence told *The Times*, in his first full interview with a foreign journalist since the banning of *The Star* last month: "You can't deny it's a police state when you can go and arrest people at will without giving any reason other than they think they are a security risk."

Dr Mahathir has affirmed that he has no intention of restoring the newspaper's publishing licence, one of the measures taken when he started a series of detentions which now total 94.

The *Tunku*, as he is known affectionately by the 15.5 million Malaysians, has a special place in the country's heart and has enjoyed a special voice in its affairs through his weekly column in *The Star*.

"I'm the man who won independence, who beat the Communists, who defended the country against Sukarno and the Philippines."

"How could I be subversive?" he asks, reviewing the possible reasons for the banning of the paper. "How could I run a paper that's subversive?"

However manifest the answer, he none the less asks his journalist-visitor to temper his remarks in print, lest he join the other 94 detained under the Internal Security Act in their various safe houses throughout the country.

Like many Malaysians, he does not concede Dr Mahathir's contention that his measures are predicated solely on the extreme tension between Malays and Chinese last month which brought the

country close to serious racial rioting.

"We all share the same view. We should not listen to him. It's not a question of Chinese against the Government but his own party, Umno (United Malays National Organisation), who are against him," he said.

Like many hands in Malaysian politics, the *Tunku* does not care for the Prime Minister's most un-Malay confrontational style and his aloof, sometimes prickly, demeanour.

If he were younger, he has remarked in the past, he might get back into politics. If his eyesight is failing, neither his mind nor his writing skill have lost any of their precision.

The *Tunku* believes that Dr Mahathir's problems spring principally from in-fighting within Umno.

The voting in Dr Mahathir's victory in the April leadership contest was "illegal", he says, because 11 Umno districts failed to register their delegates in time for the election. The legality of the voting is to be challenged in court later this month.

"But he wants to stick to his post at all costs, regardless of what the vote or what the law says. He wants to be Prime Minister and he wants to remain as such, and anybody who doesn't think he's right — he puts them in detention."

Though the *Tunku*, aged 84, is hardly at the mainstream of Malaysian politics any longer and was ignored by the Government during the thirtieth anniversary celebrations of independence this summer, his outspoken comments, both printed and spoken, still carry a lot of weight among sections of the population.

The Star column, though gentle in tone, was awaited with trepidation by politicians and civil servants alike. Without it, even the *Tunku*'s mild type of dissent will go underground, together with a brand that is likely to be more corrosive.

Moi attack on the currency 'fiddlers'

From Alastair Matheson, Nairobi

Kenya has launched a drastic crackdown to plug loopholes in its exchange regulations, in the wake of revelations of huge foreign currency losses through smuggling and illegal bank transactions.

President Moi, who has ordered criminal investigations and government monitoring of future transactions, said that Kenya would be earning double its present revenue if people dealing in exports remitted the proceeds properly.

The main leaks have occurred in coffee and tea, the chief foreign exchange earners. Some four operators are also suspected of keeping large sums of money outside the country.

In his latest attack on those he calls "foreign exchange fiddlers", the President put the total amount lost to government revenue at 1 billion Kenya shillings (about £35 million). "Consider how many social services we could have provided had we that money," he said.

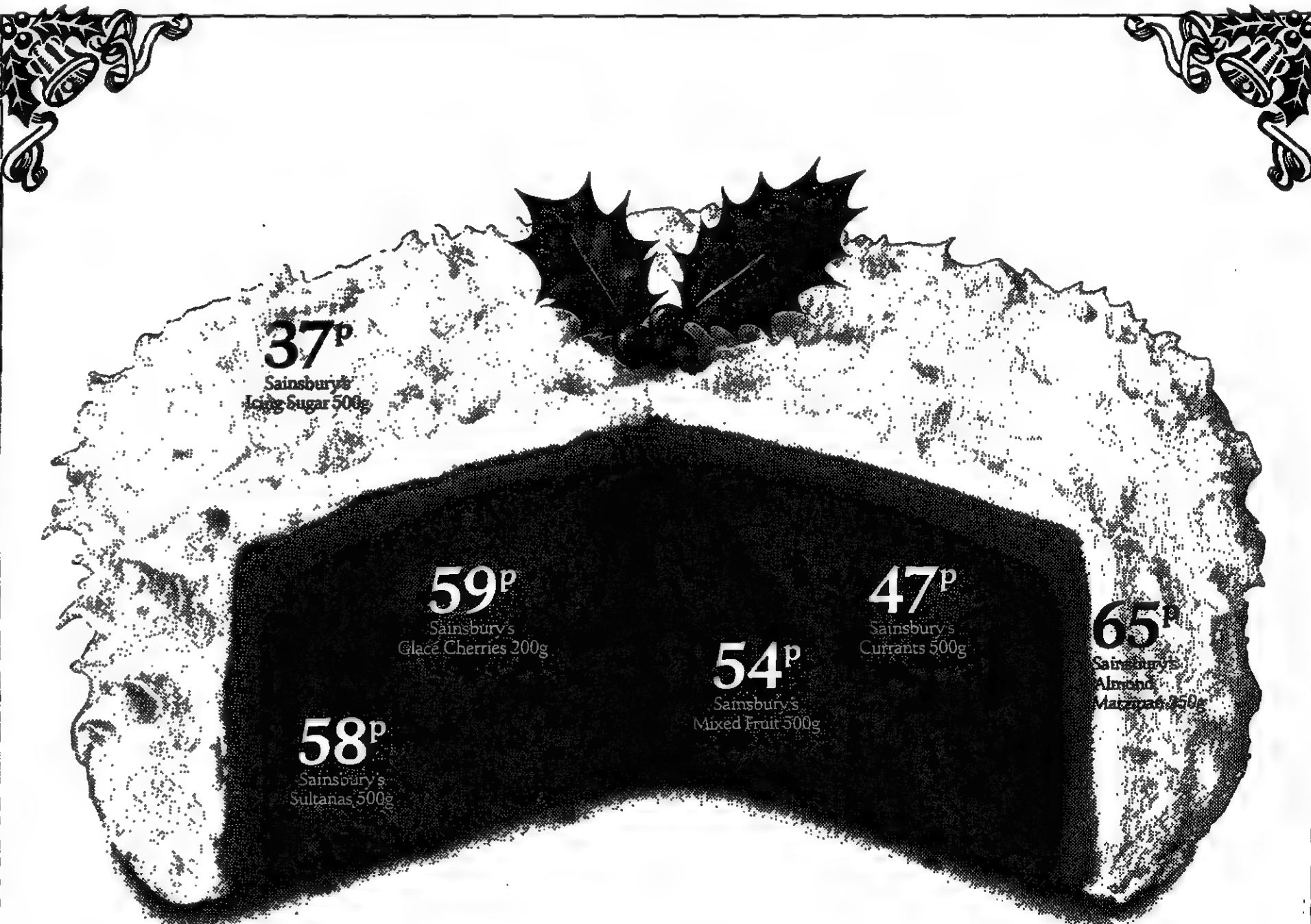
Those now facing prosecution include five Asian bank

executives and two Asian businessmen, accused of failing to remit foreign exchange from coffee exports. Many African businessmen are under investigation as part of an inquiry into the coffee industry and three are now in custody.

Mr. Moi has even gone so far as to upbraid the Central Bank (Kenya's equivalent of the Bank of England), for not taking prompt action against two banking institutions, it suspended a month ago from foreign currency dealings.

Only two days later, three more Asian bankers had joined two others facing charges over currency deals. The latest charges are against top executives of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. They have been denied bail and remanded to await the Attorney-General's consent to prosecute.

Nairobi business circles believe this is just the tip of the iceberg and expect that highly placed individuals might soon be involved. One major case of alleged customs duty evasion now in progress involves an Asian importer and senior Customs officers.



And the icing on the cake? Sainsbury's seasonal prices, of course.

CHRISTMAS CAKE.

- 250g (8oz) butter or margarine.
- 250g (8oz) soft brown sugar.
- 15mlsp (1 tbsp) black treacle.
- 5 eggs size 2.
- 275g (9oz) plain flour.
- 5mlsp (1 tsp) ground mixed spice.
- 2.5mlsp (1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon.
- 350g (12oz) currants.
- 250g (8oz) sultanas.
- 175g (6oz) raisins.
- 125g (4oz) glacé cherries, quartered.
- 75g (3oz) cut mixed peel.
- 75g (3oz) ground almonds.
- 45ml (2oz) blanched almonds or walnut pieces, chopped.
- Grated rind of 1 lemon.
- 45ml (3 tbsp) Sainsbury's French brandy, optional.
- Grease and line a deep 23cm (9 inch) round cake tin.
- Cream butter or margarine with sugar and

treacle until light and fluffy.
Beat in the eggs one at a time, adding a tablespoon of flour with the last two.
Sieve in remaining flour with spices and fold in. Stir in prepared fruit, nuts, lemon rind and brandy if using.
Turn mixture into prepared tin and smooth top, hollowing slightly.
Bake at 150°C, 300°F, Gas Mark 2 for 3-4 hours.

MARZIPAN.

Knead 2 x 500g packs of Sainsbury's Marzipan until pliable and roll out.
Spread apricot jam on top and sides of cake.
Cover with marzipan and allow to set for a minimum of 24 hours.

ROYAL ICING.

Lightly whisk 3 (size 2) egg whites.
Add 750g (1 1/2 lb) sifted Sainsbury's icing sugar a little at a time, beating well between each addition until icing forms peaks.

Beat in 1 teaspoon of lemon juice.
Spread over cake and draw up in peaks to give a snowy effect.
Decorate with holly, robins, etc.

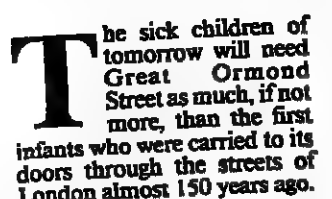
Sainsbury's Californian Seedless Raisins 500g	59p
Sainsbury's Ground Almonds 200g	£1.19
Sainsbury's Cut Mixed Peel 200g	32p
Sainsbury's Demerara Sugar 1kg	69p
Sainsbury's Soft Margarine 500g	26p 24p
Sainsbury's Flour Plain/Self Raising 1.5kg	42p

Good food costs less at Sainsbury's.

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Victim of excellence

Being the best creates special problems. If Great Ormond Street is not to start turning children away urgent action must now be taken. Thomson Prentice reports



The sick children of tomorrow will need Great Ormond Street as much, if not more, than the first infants who were carried to its doors through the streets of London almost 150 years ago.

But many will be turned away. The hospital, probably the most famous of its kind in the world, cannot cope, a victim of its own reputation. Short of everything except determination and skill, it represents in crumbling bricks and mortar all that is best and worst about the National Health Service.

Children from all over Britain, and from as far apart as Russia and Sudan, are referred here because their invariably complex illnesses need the combined skills of the specialists working together in unique teams.

Last year the hospital treated 60,000 outpatients and admitted 9,000 others, from very premature babies to adolescents.

"We have achieved remarkable

successes in treatments and cures," says Professor Martin Barratt, a consultant renal physician, "but that has resulted in a massive increase in the demands on time, equipment and resources throughout the hospital."

"Twenty years ago, leukaemia was a fatal illness, but now two thirds of the patients admitted survive. Ten years ago, 27 per cent of newborn babies admitted for abdominal surgery would have died. Now the survival rate is 97 per cent."

"In 1976, our diagnostic department performed 100,000 chemical tests related to patients. Last year the figure rose to 500,000. The intensive care unit simply cannot manage with the existing facilities. We are having to turn children away."

For almost six months this year, four cots in the neo-natal surgical unit have been empty because of a shortage of highly-skilled nurses. Lorraine O'Donnell, one of the nurses in the unit, says: "There is

never enough room or enough time. There can be seven babies all on ventilators at the same time, all needing constant attention."

"You fall over equipment trying to get to their cots, you scrounge what you need from other wards, and you try to find ways to let very anxious mums stay close to their babies. Don't ask me how we manage."

The prospects for children with cancer and leukaemia will continue to improve only if further advances in treatment are achieved. At Great Ormond Street that means the haematology and oncology wards need to be urgently replaced.

Tomorrow's children also face the threat of Aids. The hospital has already treated its first cases. The use of drugs such as AZT has shown that the progress of the disease in adults can be slowed, but there are few insights yet on their value for children or about the side-effects. About 20 per cent of adult patients need regular



Care in a corridor: after his operation David Wood's bed is parked outside the theatre while he comes to - he should have been in a recovery room.

blood transfusions to counter the anaemia the treatment can induce.

A new immunology and infectious diseases unit at Great Ormond Street is essential to help answer these questions. The existing unit and the associated Institute of Child Health has already won significant battles in combating other infant immunodeficiencies.

Professor Roland Levinsky believes these advances will lead to benefits in treating babies infected with the Aids virus. He has been developing treatments for severe com-

bined immunodeficiency, a rare disorder which leaves infants without their natural defences to infection.

"All such children used to die before their second birthday and most were dead within six months," Levinsky says. "Five years ago we could do nothing but send them home to die. Now we are achieving a 65 per cent survival rate."

This is being done despite "woefully inadequate" facilities, he says. What, he wonders, will the success rate be when the hospital is dragged out of the last century and into the next?

Restored to health in half an hour

THE PATIENT

David Wood had to wait his turn for surgery last week. As usual, all six operating theatres were fully booked. There were many cases more urgent than his: David is two years old and the abnormality in his lower abdomen needed to be investigated and repaired. Some of the other youngsters in his ward were less lucky.

David, from Hatfield, Hertfordshire, was operated on by Meena Agrawal, paediatric surgeon, and Jeffrey Grain, senior registrar, supported by a team of anaesthetists, theatre nurses and assistants. The first incision was made at 3.50pm and the last stitch was sewn at 4.25pm. It was a straightforward piece of expert surgery, but it was a relief to the boy to develop normally. It was as if this was the only operation of the day.

When it was over, David was wheeled through the two doors of the theatre to the corridor, and his trolley parked against the wall. A nurse came along and waited. He gradually emerged from the anaesthetic and began to cry.

Between an operation and return to the ward there should be a recovery room for every patient. For David, it was a draughty sixth-floor corridor, because there was nowhere else, and there won't be, not for another seven years.

THE SURGEON

Meena Agrawal, paediatric surgeon

"Excellent work goes on in this hospital and we get referrals from all over the country. I'm proud to work here, but the whole place is long overdue for replacement and improvement. The trouble is there are a lot of other hospitals that also need urgent funding and we know there is only so much money available. That's why we need so much public support."

THE MOTHER

Mrs Cheryl Wood (with her son David)

"Our local hospital referred us to Great Ormond Street because they have the experts in children's surgery here. It has taken quite a few weeks for the operation to be arranged but we understand, because there are thousands of other children needing treatment and we have just had to wait."

THE APPEAL

The hospital is appealing for £30 million, to be spent on:
● Demolition of existing buildings and construction of operating theatres, recovery wards, treatment rooms, accommodation for parents and staff, seminar rooms, play areas, cafeteria, pharmacy and car parks.....£19.3 million

● Specialized equipment for wards, theatres, laboratories and outpatient departments.....£7.5 million

● Funds to set up two chairs, for the teaching and study of virology and international child health, at the Institute of Child Health, affiliated to the hospital.....£2 million

Contribution to the costs of moving facilities so that the hospital can continue to function throughout the seven-year project.....£1 million

● The Department of Health and Social Security is contributing another £25 million. This will be spent on designing new buildings and adapting the existing Southwood block, moving facilities to make way for construction work, and modernising services.

CAN YOU HELP?

● Cheques should be sent to: The Wish- ing Well Appeal for Great Ormond Street Hospital, at 49 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3HZ or handed in at any Midland Bank.



When the Japanese wanted pure water, they tapped a British exporter.

The Japanese make sure their water is pure. A fact which a small Gateshead company are using to their own advantage. Because they sell water-testing kits.

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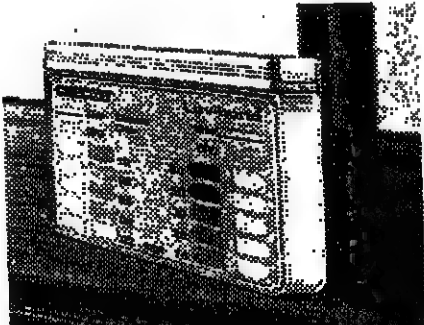
To find out how you could increase your company's turnover, now and in the future, send for our free 'Export Information Pack', or ring 0800-100-100.

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Position _____

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Company turnover

Under £1m ☐ £1m-£10m ☐

Over £10m ☐



715

The BOTB's services for exporters are part of the support offered to industry and commerce by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Blues of the berth

Marinas are springing up around Britain, but developers are as interested in providing housing as safe anchorage

The townsfolk of Hythe, Kent, today seek to emulate their seafaring ancestors by seeing off a seaborne foe. One of the original five Cinque Ports, Hythe faced frequent raids from the French in medieval times and sent 11 ships against the Armada. Its port silted up centuries ago, but now that someone is suggesting the town regain a harbour, many of its citizens are unhappy.

On the opening day of a public inquiry into a proposed marina on the seaboard, protesters are lining up to object to the scheme. Anglers and horse-riders resent the prospect of losing a stretch of the canalised bridge path. Environmentalists worry about the effects of digging a lock through the shingle bank. Others fear the development will attract more traffic and, worst of all, the French.

Hythe's project is part of a boom in marina building that has spawned a dozen or more schemes around Britain. Opening next spring is the giant Port Solent development in Portsmouth harbour. Already operating, but with their on-shore buildings incomplete, are a clutch of marinas around the Solent. Several are the product of the Dean and Dyball property company. And therein lies the rub, for today's marinas are as much about house-building as berth-building.

Some 25 years ago the French showed at Portbail in the Mediterranean that houses and flats could attractively, and profitably, be combined with new marinas. Resorts along the north French coast which, like the Kentish shore, offer few natural havens, have built similar waterfront villages. Now Britain is following suit.

"The main reason for adding the housing and other elements is that it's the only way to justify the capital costs," says Colin Perkin, chairman and chief executive of the National Yacht Harbour Association and a marina development consultant. In the derelict Southampton docks Dean and Dyball

launched Ocean Village Marina, a mixture of boats, shops and houses. On the next-door site owned by Associated British Ports, Bargate Securities has started the 20-acre Town Quay marina to be fringed by shops, offices and 240,000 square feet of housing.

Local councils are also likely to initiate ambitious schemes. As Perkin says: "A councillor will get up and say: 'We've got a bit of water, why don't we make something of it?' But many of them bite the dust on the grounds of impracticality, protective land zoning or expense."

Objections by residents of

Milford Haven to a 200-berth marina beneath the walls of Pembroke Castle were reported in *The Times* last month. At Southend the prospect of a marina formed within an artificial offshore island linked by causeway to the mainland has alarmed conservationists anxious to protect the Thames Estuary mudflats beloved by waders and wildfowl.

Pressure for new harbours is greatest on the South Coast. "There is very little from Dover to Chichester Harbour for either British yachtsmen or those visiting from the Continent," says Perkin, who is presenting evidence to the Hythe inquiry. "The ideal," he adds, "is somewhere to stop every 20 to 30 miles around the coast, but we've a long way to go before we reach that."

At the end of the hearing, which is expected to last three weeks, the inspector will recommend whether Hythe will once again form part of such a port chain.

Bob Smyth

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1409

1 Actor (6)	10 Actor (6)	19 Actor (6)	28 Actor (6)
2 Grub (5)	11 Actor (6)	20 Actor (6)	29 Actor (6)
3 Day of Atonement (3,6)	12 Actor (6)	21 Actor (6)	30 Actor (6)
4 Go back over (7)	13 Actor (6)	22 Actor (6)	31 Actor (6)
5 Bordered (5)	14 Actor (6)	23 Actor (6)	32 Actor (6)
6 Gingiva (3)	15 Actor (6)	24 Actor (6)	33 Actor (6)
7 Continuously (7)	16 Actor (6)	25 Actor (6)	34 Actor (6)
8 Chinese premier (1949-76) (4,2-3)	17 Actor (6)	26 Actor (6)	35 Actor (6)
9 Nuclear energy device (7)	18 Actor (6)	27 Actor (6)	36 Actor (6)
10 Lasting (7)	19 Actor (6)	28 Actor (6)	37 Actor (6)
11 Delightful occasion (5)	20 Actor (6)	29 Actor (6)	38 Actor (6)
12 Deceive (5)	21 Actor (6)	30 Actor (6)	39 Actor (6)
13 Enemy (3)	22 Actor (6)	31 Actor (6)	40 Actor (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 1408
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Tandon

THE TIMES DIARY

No-no to Nkomo

A touching birthday gift for ANC leader Oliver Tambo from his wife Adelaide has backfired because of the harsh realities of African politics. Mr Tambo compiled a collection of her husband's speeches, with the help of exiled South African academic Ben Turok, which Heinemann was to publish in its African writers series. The book, due out on October 27, Tambo's 70th birthday, has been hastily withdrawn and the 5,000 print run pulped after Tambo expressed reservations about the reliability of recorded texts of some of his early speeches. But I'm told the real reason is that "official" history, according to the ANC, now plays down its backing of Joshua Nkomo and his Zanu party against Robert Mugabe's Zapu before Zimbabwe's independence, and so changes were thought necessary. The sanitized and ANC-authorized version of the book is due out later this month.

Stockpile

Nigel Lawson can have little ground for complaint against the unparliamentary "fat buster" insult by Newham Labour MP Tony Banks if a recently observed performance in the Commons' cafeteria is anything to go by. The Chancellor was spotted tucking into roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, gravy and a double helping of chips. As a side order he had opted for two slices of Welsh rarebit. The Labour-supporting *Tribune* magazine, which records this feat, puts the most sympathetic gloss possible on the meal: it was consumed before the stock market crash, after which Lawson needed his calorie reserves.

● Birmingham City Council has stepped up its attempts to recruit two ethnic cooks to cater for its 16 black and Asian councillors. The search has taken on new urgency after councillor Ghazwan Khan complained that samosas laid out at a council tea had all been eaten by white colleagues before he got to the front of the queue.

Passé

The autumn ritual of sending off passport-sized photographs for party conference passes has acquired a new mystique. A colleague who tipped his Labour Party ID on to an Epson dump — along with rubbish during a house move — was surprised when it was returned to him a few weeks later by the police, who said it had been found in a London street. Presumably the down-and-out who picked up the card discarded it when he discovered that it opened fewer doors than he hoped.



Higher maths

Examiners for the new GCSE science papers in the East Midlands won't be in any doubt as to how the papers should be marked. Thanks to the regional examinations board's latest guidelines, practical science skills will be a double-edged sword. They will be marked on a six-point scale, 0-5, and just in case any of the examiners can't recall their own childhood lessons, the board helpfully adds the following tips: "A mark of 0 would be a performance below that of mark 1. A mark of 2 would be a performance better than mark 1, but not worthy of 3, and similarly, a mark of 4 would be a performance better than mark 3 but not worthy of mark 5." Well, that adds up.

● The Sealink Channel ferry company is moving part of its London staff to new offices in Ashford, Kent. In the same building is a branch of Trans Manche-Link, Eurotunnel building contractors.

Just fancy

One of the first problems likely to face our new Lord Chancellor is his staff's increasing irritation at being made to dress up in court. The Civil and Public Services Association, delighted to be invited to meet Lord Mackay of Clashfern last night, wants crown court clerks to be allowed to wear ordinary clothes like their counterparts in county courts. The bill for buying and laundering wigs and gowns is so great that the Lord Chancellor's Department now issues clerks with plastic collars which do not need to be washed. "Theatrical hump," says CPSA official Peter Harris — though I doubt whether the union will have used such language at yesterday's meeting with the austere Mackay.

The Commons select committee system is going through one of the periodic bouts of trouble which have plagued it since I was instrumental in establishing the committees in 1979, when I was Leader of the House. As a result no committees for the present parliamentary session have been set up; while the parties wrangle the executive goes insufficiently checked and supervised.

Such struggles over the composition of the committees have taken place before and we need not take too tragic a view of the latest. Indeed in one sense it shows the committees' continuing vitality. Parliamentarians, normally struggle only over institutions they perceive to be important.

The two issues which have led to the present impasse are eminently soluble given even a modicum of goodwill and common sense. The first conflict centres round the Scottish select committee where, contrary to the general election, the Tories have not enough backbenchers available to man the committee and give it the conventional government majority. Scottish MPs have declined to concur in the setting up of the other committees until the problem is resolved and are blocking their progress.

A number of solutions have been put forward, most of them unacceptable. There has been the suggestion that on this committee alone Labour should have the majority, reflecting the number of seats it holds in Scotland. This would implicitly deny the unitary nature of the United Kingdom and concede the Scottish nationalist cause. Another suggestion has been to pack the committee with English Tory MPs, but this simply

Case of the missing watchdogs

by Norman St John-Stevan

would not work. A third is not to set up the committee at all, but that is mere defeatism.

In fact, there is a simple and practical solution: to set up a committee of reduced size with five Tories, three Labour and one representative for the other parties. Complaints have already been made that the previous committee of 13 was unwieldy, so no question of principle is involved.

The other cause of trouble is over the nomination of Labour members of CND to the Defence committee. Some right-wing Conservatives have objected on security grounds, but I cannot see that this has any substance and the government should have no truck with it. The fact that an MP holds unilateralist views — and many do — does not mean they are potential traitors to the country prepared to break their oath of allegiance. Such a suggestion is insulting to them and not supported by evidence. Here again there is no insuperable obstacle to overcome. In fact both government and opposition have an interest in

doing so since it is in neither's interest that the Commons should be deprived of the proven excellence of the work of the committees.

The committees have wide investigative powers but, unlike those of the US Congress, they have no executive or legislative functions. Since their inception the committees have investigated a wide variety of issues. Thus the Home Office committee has looked at the working of a number of laws, including those empowering the police to arrest on suspicion, and other laws affecting personal liberty. The Education committee has carried out a thorough investigation into higher education and the Defence committee has analysed strategic nuclear weapons policy.

Most influential of all has been the Treasury committee, which has examined the whole field of government economic policy, frequently adopting the principles of the policy for methodological purposes and so provided an effective critique based on the government's own premises.

From the beginning the Foreign Affairs committee has set out to influence the development of British foreign policy. It materially affected the "partition" debate on the Canadian constitution and carried through a radical investigation of the government's handling of the Falklands war.

One great advantage of debates in the select committees is that they are calm, rational and non-party political. It is remarkable how members of select committees strive hard to act as MPs first and party members second. In the chamber itself, amid the political rowdiness, it is impossible for MPs to follow through a sustained line of questioning. It is quite the reverse in a select committee, where particular subjects can be carefully and thoroughly examined. Another field in which the committees have done useful and constructive work is that of examining public accounts, materially helped by the independent audit office set up under my private members' bill of 1983.

The select committees are not perfect. They need to be further reformed and strengthened, but they have added materially to the effectiveness of parliamentary scrutiny of government actions and policies, and have greatly improved the flow of information on such matters to MPs and the media alike. With wider powers and more resources, and more time devoted to them by MPs, they could do better still. As it is, they have already justified Speaker Thomas's commendation of them as one of the most important parliamentary reforms of the century.

© Times Newspapers, 1987.
Lord St John of Fawley was a Conservative MP, 1964-87.

The shame of Ireland

For every Irishman who took part in the Easter Rising of 1916, 16 were in the trenches in France. Weeks after the Rising thousands of Irish were slaughtered at the Battle of the Somme, and they were not all from Ulster. On Remembrance Sunday the meal it was consumed in Northern Ireland. In the Republic, where grandfathers who fought in the First World War have been forgotten, the Protestants hold church services but the British Legion is discreet in its distribution of poppies. In recent years they have not been on open sale.

That a Remembrance Day gathering should be the target for a bomb attack has shocked Irish opinion. There is bewilderment as to the possible motives. Some ascribe it to that Republican faction which hopes to terrorize the Protestant population out of the border areas of Northern Ireland.

Others see it as a measure of the IRA's desperation after the seizure of the huge arms cache from the trawler *Eskumud*. More likely it may have been revenge for what the IRA would see as police harassment at last week's funeral of two IRA men who killed themselves while preparing a bomb. It has often been noted that terrorists live in a blinkered world; many IRA members would be unaware that even their fellow-travellers who usually find excuses for them would find the Enniskillen atrocity obscene. That Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin leader, has disowned it may be some indication of public revulsion.

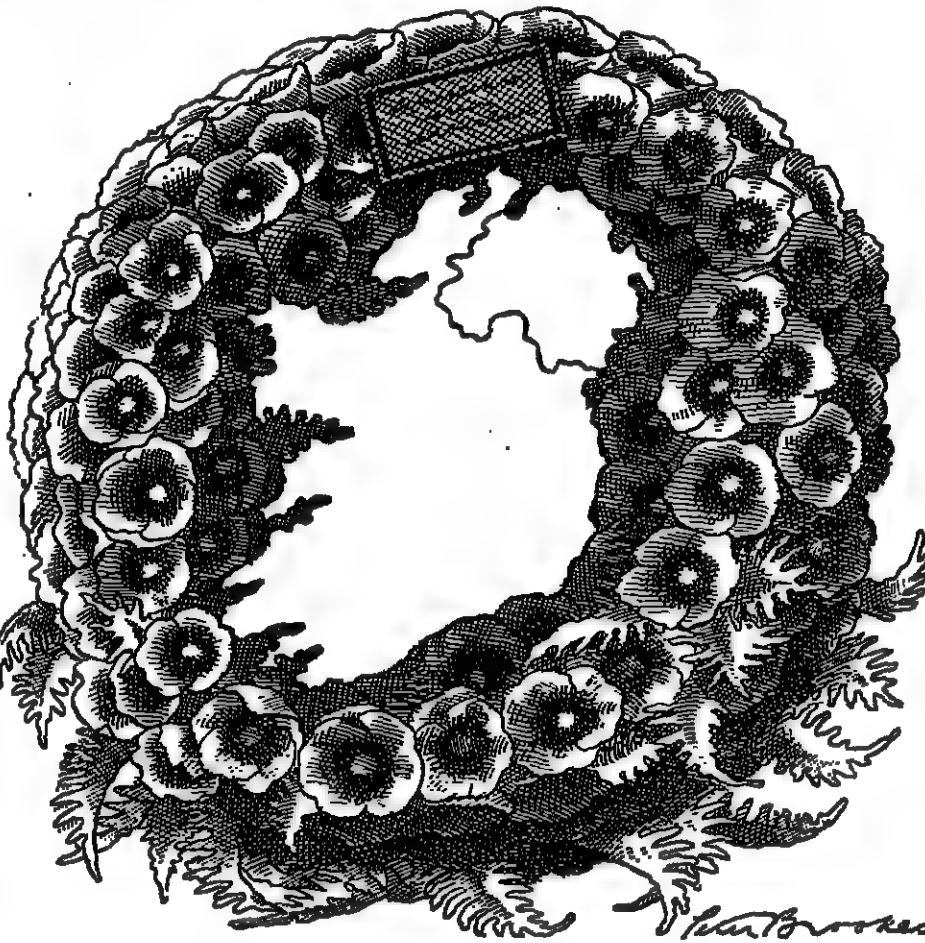
Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist MP for the constituency, may be wrong when he says the victims will be forgotten within a week. There is even a possibility that Enniskillen will prove to be a watershed in North-South and in Anglo-Irish relations.

It has been a shocking week in Ireland, not least because of the scale of operation envisaged by the IRA given the nature and tonnage of the weapons on the *Eskumud*. The special talks between London and Dublin on security announced yesterday underline the urgency with which both governments view the situation.

Opposition leaders in the Dail, where Fianna Fail is a minority government, have acknowledged that recent events, especially Enniskillen, have changed the debate on extradition. In an opinion poll published last weekend only 35 per cent opposed extradition, 43 per cent were in favour and 22 per cent had no opinion — and it was taken at a time when many of the most constructive politicians in the South were publicly critical of British failure to bring in greater reforms of the Northern Irish legal system. After Enniskillen, the injuries to kidnapping victim John O'Grady and the *Eskumud* seizure, support for extradition will undoubtedly be higher.

But while some politicians suggest, in reaching hasty decisions in an emotional climate, there is now in the Dail an increasing appreciation that failure to ratify the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism will be widely misunderstood. Not only will Ulster Unionists characterize it as giving succour to terrorists but the British government has signalled its expectation that it will be passed, adding that failure to do so would result in a deterioration in Anglo-Irish relations.

Yet there are serious misgivings in the Republic. There is disappointment at the failure to bring in greater reforms in the administration of justice in Northern Ireland. The innocence of the Birmingham Six and others is unquestioned, and statements on the case, such as those by Lord Denning, are seen as a failure by the British establishment to own up to past errors. Above all, Irish politicians are well aware of the difficulties they would



After the Enniskillen Remembrance Day bomb, John Bowman sees a hardening of opinion against the IRA on both sides of the border

now face had the Birmingham Six been extradited from the Republic in 1974 to face their 13 years in custody.

There is also disappointment at London's failure to deliver what was thought to be an understanding between Dr Garret FitzGerald and Mrs Thatcher in the negotiations which preceded the Hillsborough agreement that three-judge courts would replace the single-judge Diplock system. At a confidential meeting of the British Irish Association in Cambridge in September Dr FitzGerald was sharply critical of British lethargy in the past year, and his comments were given considerable press coverage. "Thatcher wretched," said one headline.

Since then the British have disagreed with this interpretation and criticism of London has softened at the Dublin end. Moreover it is increasingly clear to the more ardent supporters of the Hillsborough agreement that the linkage of specific Diplock reform, not currently forthcoming from London, with the passing of the extradition bill has been a mistake. There is even a suspicion in some quarters that some in London may have encouraged such a linkage, anticipating a failure by the Dail to approve extradition and with a view to extricating themselves from Hillsborough.

There is also considerable misunderstanding about the extradition issue. The European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism has already been passed by the Dail and comes

into effect on December 1 unless a resolution is tabled, and supported, further to postpone or rescind it. Already a number of government backbenchers have declared their opposition. But the prime minister, Charles Haughey, has been careful in recent speeches to leave all options open and not to link Diplock too closely as a quid pro quo for extradition. Rather the government has emphasized general progress on legal reform in Northern Ireland.

It also needs to be remembered that the extradition vote in the Dail on December 1 is largely symbolic. Extradition is already operating after the Supreme Court's verdict in the McGlinchey case that a commonsense view of whether any act was political should determine whether or not an accused person was extradited, and not the accused's avowed motive. Under this ruling any fugitive suspected of the Enniskillen bombing could not successfully plead a political motive.

What has prevented extradition from being used to full effect has been carelessness in the drafting of some British warrants and a lack of evidence against some of those extradited to Northern Ireland. It could even be that on this occasion all party leaders in the Dail will reach an understanding to ensure that the Act is passed.

The main opposition leaders are the architects of the Hillsborough agreement and fully support it. While critical of Fianna Fail's posturing on the agreement, it is now appreciated that for better or worse Mr Haughey's government is the custodian of the agreement on the nationalist side. If he has to make a U-turn on extradition too, the opposition may well help him to make it, although he has proved too expert at the manoeuvre since coming into government that this will scarcely be necessary.

The author is an Irish historian and a regular writer and broadcaster on Irish affairs.

Lessons from America for the TUC

The internal dispute over single-union, no-strike deals may not end up splitting the TUC but it is seriously hindering the movement's effectiveness. While a TUC review body is studying the issue, union leaders are looking across the Atlantic to see if the American trade unions offer any solutions.

The last major row over no-strike agreements in the US was back in 1975. The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) — the US equivalent of the TUC — does not even mention the issue of no-strike deals in its recent literature. Trade union leaders believe their prime enemy is non-unionism; the no-strike deal is not an issue. In all but seven states public employees are not allowed to go on strike. But the municipal employees' union, which is by no means alone in signing strike-free deals, is proud of its agreements. Linda Lampkin, the union's research director, who is addressing

a TUC conference in London today, says: "Holding out for the right to strike is a nice ideal, but we do not have it. In 1975 the AFL-CIO wanted full collective bargaining rights; it was a case of everything or nothing. We were in the business of giving 'something' to our members. Our agreements have now shown that arbitration is always in the interests of the employees, not management."

According to Markley Roberts, the AFL-CIO's chief economist, "it is perfectly acceptable for any union to submit itself to binding arbitration (deadlocked disputes settled by an independent arbitrator) providing it does so voluntarily." Neither the AFL-CIO nor any individual union has tried to prevent such agreements taking place.

Instead of fighting strike-free agreements, US trade unions have been free to concentrate on recruitment and have established a special procedure to avoid inter-union rivalry in the process.

If a union wants exclusive negotiating rights at a non-union company it can invoke this procedure to gain the sole union rights. If more than one union is involved, the issue goes to mediation and then to two independent umpires whose decision is final and binding. When Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, put forward this ingenious plan to end inter-union rivalry and stem the decline in trade union membership in Britain he failed to persuade union leaders of its merits. The right feared it would benefit unions repudiating no-strike deals; the left thought that centralization of power was not in its interests.

Free of such problems, American unions believe their organizational procedure is working well. It has just been invoked by the hotel and restaurant workers and the stationery and engineering workers who want the exclusive rights to recruit members at a big hotel in San Jose, California.

The procedure was also recently used to establish which union should organize at Coors, the beer company in Golden, Colorado, Denver, which dropped its anti-union policies after a 10-year union campaign. An umpire voted in favour of the machinists, against the automobile workers and steelworkers who, according to one union official, have stepped aside with grace and goodwill. If they had refused they could have been open to "raiding" by other unions.

Some US trade union leaders admit to being somewhat bemused by all the fuss that no-strike deals have caused in Britain. Whatever the outcome of the TUC's special review body, which is due to report next year, union officials in America believe the TUC would be well advised to take a leaf out of US industrial relations and concentrate on tackling the problem of non-unionism.

Roland Rudd

Tony Blair

Privatization's real benefit

Since the crash, building societies have been taking full-page advertisements advising us to bring our savings in from the violent squalls of the equity market and moor them once again in the tranquil harbour of the deposit account. By contrast, the sales pitch of the storm-tossed unit trusts and others is defiant, almost implying that to give up now shows an absence of stiff upper lip.

The government must also be watching the market nervously, fearing that the beneficiaries of "people's capitalism" may end up as its victims. Privatization has been the boldest stroke of Thatcher administration. It has also been the most typical: highly ideological in theory yet executed in populist style, sold on principle but underwritten with a calculated and ruthless pragmatism.

It is also an interesting example of how governments feel their way. Contrary to conventional "left" demonology, in which everything that has come to pass was planned, secretly, before the Tories ever came to power, privatization started life in humble political surroundings. Like its humble standard bearers, it owes its position to getting "on its bike". It has travelled a long way. The original justification for privatization was efficiency through competition, the government initially selling its stake in industries which largely already competed in the market with the private sector.

Public ownership had been undertaken for the best of reasons — the strategic importance of the industry to the wider economy. But, operating sometimes under unnecessary bureaucratic constraints and subject to the vagaries of changing political control, these industries could be at a commercial disadvantage.

In those post-1979 salad days the privatization debate was about industrial efficiency. The 1983 Tory manifesto pledged, for the first time, the sale of a "utility". British Telecom. Yet this was still on the basis of making the industry more competitive. As John Moore, then Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said in late 1983, the primary objective of privatization was to "reduce the power of the monopolist and to encourage competition". But in 1986 we find the same minister saying: "Our plans... do not of course depend for their success on the presence of product competition. This would make no sense and indeed would lead to a loss of economic efficiency and produce poorer services for the customer."

What had happened? During the BT privatization two things had become apparent. First, a happy side effect of selling state assets was the accretion of a huge amount of money to the Treasury. To a government obsessed with reducing the public sector borrowing requirement, this was heaven-sent. The sale proceeds were treated in the accounts as negative current spending and the PSBR was slashed. The government now

subvents revenue expenditure from capital receipts at an annual rate of about 4p in the standard rate of tax. It is this, above all else, that has led other countries to imitation. Long term, it is irresponsible; but its short-term benefits to the Treasury are self-evident.

Second, there was a real risk of market indifference in selling such a large amount of stock to existing shareholders. By bringing in the public, the government could broaden the equity market and ease the passage of the stock. So "wider share ownership" was born. Of course, to attract the virgin investor, the assets had to be sold at below their real value.

By the time of British Gas, raising cash for tax cuts and "popular capitalism" had overwhelmed entirely the original case for privatization and Gas was sold as a monopoly. But private monopolies do not work. The criticism of BT and Gas has made further such sales politically dangerous, so competition has had to be placed back on the agenda.

Here is the rub. The introduction of competition, in truth, conflicts with the maximization of sale proceeds and encouragement of share owners. A monopoly is a bigger sale and a better buy. The privatization of electricity is currently seated on the horns of this dilemma. The government insists that it will be sold, but cannot tell us how.

Privatization is now in thrall to political convenience. But expediency wins only transient gains. Ultimately privatization will not be judged either in terms of the revenue raised or even the number of new, small shareholders, though some Tories would hotly contest this. The number of shareholders is probably significantly fewer than the government would like. That is not to say they won't buy electricity or water; the discount is big enough. But the risk, as with British Airways, and more especially after the events of recent weeks, is that they will buy as speculators, taking instant advantage of the government's vicarious generosity on behalf of other taxpayers.

In any event, there are millions more customers than there are shareholders. They will hold the Tories to account, and efficiency will be the test they apply.

As for public ownership, the original purpose remains intact: to ensure that the shareholders' profit motive does not override the interests of the broader community, whether in safeguarding vital industrial assets or in public services. It is only if these two interests always and naturally coincide that the notion of government intervention is redundant.

On the more rational assumption that, at certain points at least, they collide, then questions of public control and accountability are as relevant today as ever. The eventual legacy of privatization may be to make them more so. The author is Labour MP for Seaford.

however... Henry Stanhope

Cockpit of the hurricane

As I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted... Having not been selected for the *Reader's Book of Reports*, I thought it wise to make known this extract from my diary for October, in case they are preparing any addenda for the second edition.

THE GREAT STORM OF LONDON

Up at 3, awakened by Mistress Stanhope with news of a fearsome gale which was a-blowing down the trellis at the back and all her honeysuckle on 't. To the window, through which nothing to be seen, it being as dark as the Hounds' Ditch in spate. Back to bed, a-yawning.

Up at 4, awakened by Mistress Stanhope with news that the gale is still a-raging and hath just thrown a tile off the next door roof so what might be done by me should I start blowing tiles off ours? And how might befall the geraniums she has forgot to pot for winter? Back to the window, muttering the while, to find it still as black as a Frenchman's soul. To bed presently, much aggrieved.

Up at 5, awakened by Mistress Stanhope with news that if I do not come quickly the house will be blown down by the force of the wind, it now taking trees before it and casting up stones like quoits into the road. Once more to the window, swearing softly, where nothing to be seen, there being a great dark branch across the glass. My heart full of trouble at this.

Up at 7, sleep being by this time damned impossible. Mistress Stanhope in deep slumber. Breakfast on cornflakes and cold milk by candlelight, there being no confounded electricity. The paper boy doth not arrive. Nor doth the postman, milkman, fishman, vegetable van or baker's boy, for reasons why I cannot not fully tell.

Out and into the road, to find scenes of dreadful devastation. The storm hath spread rendering great trees across all paths and on to greenhouses. The poor man opposite is weeping "Oh my car, my car" most grievously and starting beneath a great oak, full of oak. He hath a great Mercedes, which

delights me much. I make great play of this to his distress.

A woman did detain me by the arm as I made haste towards the station, saying "There are no trains today. We cannot not to our offices today." Methought she looked most gladstone and was a dancing down the pavement as she left, in most unseemly fashion, back to bed.

So took I to the coach-stop, there to find a goodly queue of people in fine spirits and talking of the Dutch wars. When I inquired as to the number 27 I learnt that none was so far seen. But a 65 had past an hour before, with people standing deep within and singing songs awile, "Roll Out the Barrel" and "We'll Meet Again."

"Best take that to the Ealing Broadway," said one man. "No, no, a 267 is what he wants," joined in his wife. "I think that you should walk to Turnham Green," broke in a third. "And on... So rap... which came... they did not see the bus which one, they stole I on ahead of them, with passengers most lively, fighting for seats as if for golden guineas, and crying out: "What's happened to good manners then?"

There was dark talk of weather-men and sorcery, the gale 'tis said being blamed on Ian MacCaskill and John Kettley. There were some spoke of lynchings, though I durst not ask where might they find a tree to hang them from.

Jumped off beyond the river on the Brentford where I took I another coach to Hammersmith. The traffic here most heavy throughout Chiswick, folk talking of the storm and what it did to them and to their cats. A woman hath lost all her pink hydrangeas. The streets full of London cries like "Where didst thou get thy bleedin' licence mate?"

A full one hour it took to Hammersmith and thence the underground where trains were by now running to the City. Thus got I to the Tower where one old tree had blocked the subway exit by came by and hailing him, I reached the shop at Wapping in the quarter. "Where hast thou been?" they cried, when I arrived. "Thou'lt late yet again." And so to work...

THE CH

The Church of England in recent years with a... far it has found in the ordination of women... divorcees in church... homosexual conduct... church's difficulty in... doctrine, particularly... sexuality, with the... age.

Tomorrow's Church... homosexuality... those for whom... negotiable, and... merely a starting... Homosexual conduct... Old and New Testam... least, wrong. Unl... tradition of the church... the Church of Englan... it. Since the law was... strong distaste for the... a distaste originating... of the church — has... age.

Lately, society has... that only those actin... identifiable harm... judgement of what is... left to the individua... legalizing homosexu... consenting adults... made room for the... which insists on equal... homosexual and heter... which logically deman... treatment extends to... Personal morality... matter of private con... laid down by Parlia... involved. But Parlia... morality should be... distinction between o... change the nature of... None the less some... have reacted to the... homosexual conduct... taken place. Given the... constitutional... MR B...

The prison door of St... opened a crack with... septuagenarian Comm... a quarter of a centur... tage. Whether it will... a free, constructive... all South Africans... will depend on how... Africans themselves... Mr Govan Mbeki's... President Botha has... himself of his most... Mandela's continued... of international emb... stance to negotiatin... moderate black leader... of the unrest that a... come the focus of... prevented his release... ination not to how to... day the state of emer... of order on the black... Thatcher said at the... wealth heads of gove... national isolation and... a single concession f... merely strengthened... South African whites... Botha now fears mos... test the water.

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THE CHURCH'S ONLY ANSWER

The Church of England has been faced in recent years with a series of questions which so far it has found impossible to answer. The ordination of women, the remarriage of divorcees in church, and the acceptability of homosexual conduct, are three examples of the church's difficulty in reconciling its traditional doctrine, particularly in matters touching on sexuality, with the liberalism of the modern age.

Tomorrow's General Synod debate on homosexuality will involve a collision between those for whom traditional answers are not negotiable, and those for whom they are merely a starting point for new thinking. Homosexual conduct according to both the Old and New Testaments is, to say the very least, wrong. Until recently nothing in the later tradition of the church has questioned that. Before the present generation scarcely anyone in the Church of England would have disputed it. Since the law was changed English society's strong distaste for the idea of homosexuality — a distaste originating in that constant teaching of the church — has by no means totally gone.

Lately, society has accepted the principle that only those actions which do objectively identifiable harm should be crimes. The judgement of what is or is not a sin has to be left to the individual conscience. But by legalising homosexual conduct between consenting adults Parliament unwittingly made room for the ideology of "gay liberation" which insists on equating the moral value of homosexual and heterosexual conduct, and which logically demands that this equality of treatment extends even to the classroom.

Personal morality certainly should be a matter of private conscience and should not be laid down by Parliament unless crime is involved. But Parliament's refusal to preach morality should be seen as what it was — a distinction between crime and sin. It did not change the nature or seriousness of the sin.

None the less some in the Church of England have reacted to the decriminalisation of homosexual conduct as if that change had taken place. Given the complex historical and constitutional relationship between Par-

liament and the Established Church, the mistake is not altogether surprising. Parliament is one of the ultimate sources on which the church's authority rests. But in leaving the ethics of homosexuality to private conscience, Parliament was not intending to alter the moral doctrine of the Church of England.

Surprisingly for a body of many faiths and of none, Parliament has seen its duty towards the church as one of conservation, and as a check on theological innovation. Indeed if Parliament is no longer in the business of propounding traditional morality, it all the more needs an Established Church which will do so. This, churchmen would argue, is a simplistic view. It corresponds in many ways, however, to the general but implicit terms of the church-state compact at present: for the sake of the common good the Church of England is called upon to "uphold standards", even by some who do not always uphold them very well themselves.

In this case there is little room for disagreement about what those standards have to be. The church is committed to the moral rules it finds in the Bible which, even allowing for some latitude for interpretation, cannot countenance homosexual behaviour as compatible with the Christian gospel. The burden of proof lies heavily on those who say otherwise, and they have by no means discharged it. But they have taken advantage of a climate of tolerance, and of an unwillingness by the church authorities to seem narrow-minded or old fashioned, to establish their bridgeheads.

As a result, the impression is widely given that homosexual practice is not a bar to ordination, appointment or promotion in the church — as it ought to be. In practice and even in theory it amounts to a departure from the moral code of which the church is trustee. If the church stuck more closely to that code, some of its recent dilemmas would disappear. Christian sympathy with the predicament facing a homosexual is one thing. It is not the same as condoning clear violation of biblical principles.

MR BOTHA TESTS THE WATER

The prison door of South African politics has opened a crack with the release of a half-blind septuagenarian Communist imprisoned nearly a quarter of a century ago for treason and sabotage. Whether it will open still further to release a free, constructive and open debate between all South Africans about their country's future will depend on how the world and South Africans themselves respond to the ending of Mr Govan Mbeki's captivity.

President Botha has been anxious to portray Mr Mbeki's release as a humanitarian act, prompted by nothing other than his years, his frailty and the impending season of Christian charity. This allowed Mr Botha to drop the condition that political prisoners must forswear violence before they can be freed. It will presumably be used again if Mr Nelson Mandela walks through the gates of Pollsmoor prison.

President Botha has long wanted to rid himself of his most famous prisoner. Mr Mandela's continued imprisonment is a cause of international embarrassment and an obstacle to negotiations with even the most moderate black leaders. Fears during the height of the unrest that a freed Mr Mandela could become the focus of uncontrollable violence prevented his release. So too did a determination not to bow to external pressure. But today the state of emergency has imposed a kind of order on the black townships. And, as Mrs Thatcher said at the Vancouver Commonwealth heads of government meeting, international isolation and sanctions have not won a single concession from Pretoria; they have merely strengthened far-right opinion among South African whites — the opinion which Mr Botha now fears most as he uses Mr Mbeki to test the water.

TALKING AGAIN IN GENEVA

The significance of yesterday's talks between the United States and Soviet Union on limiting nuclear weapon tests, lies in their taking place at all rather than in anything they might achieve. Their meeting in Geneva signalled the resumption of negotiations which broke off seven years ago — and must as such be welcomed, though cautiously.

The history of test ban talks so far has been one of stop-go politics, interspersed with acrimonious exchanges. This time, though, there are two encouraging signs. One is that the superpowers are more realistic and less ambitious than they used to be. The other is that technological advances have improved the prospects for satisfactory verification of a treaty.

The difficulty of agreeing on verification procedures has always been the rock on which previous attempts to sign a comprehensive test ban (CTB) agreement have foundered. The problem of differentiating between an underground nuclear test and an earthquake has always allowed too much scope for cheating. The danger might be more theoretical than real, but the uncertainty has created a poor climate for mutual trust.

The 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty banned tests in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater. But the last attempt to convert this into a complete ban on testing, broke down in 1980. Since then a growing number of scientists have insisted that advances in seismic technology have gone far enough to allay the fears of both Washington and London.

It has become increasingly clear, however, that the United States in particular has been reluctant to accept the restraints on weapons development which a CTB might impose. One development which the present administration's reason for this is the present administration's fidelity to the Strategic Defence Initiative. The other is a more fundamental belief that as long

as there are nuclear weapons, those weapons must be tested from time to time. For one thing, it is important to keep one's technology up to date. For another, the "shelf life" of their warheads must be monitored.

With such reservations in mind, the Americans have always preferred a more cautious approach to limiting nuclear tests. In 1974 the superpowers signed the Threshold Test Ban Treaty which banned nuclear tests with a yield above 150 kilotons and in 1976 they agreed to extend this limit to all peaceful nuclear explosions. Neither has been ratified by the US Senate, however, because of congressional concern over verification — although both powers have abided by the treaty provisions.

The new negotiations in Geneva will first focus on renegotiating these two treaties. But they must establish more satisfactory verification clauses taking advantage of the advances in technology and the more positive Soviet attitude towards the American demand for on-site inspection. If the Soviet Union is bluffing in offering better on-site inspection, the bluff must be called. Another need is to negotiate lower ceilings. The approach this time should therefore be more realistic and more practical.

It is worthwhile that the talks make progress, however slow and painful progress may be. Under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968, there is a requirement that the nuclear weapon powers play their part. A move towards restricting weapon tests will be seen by the non-nuclear countries as a step in the right direction — and will thus help to keep the treaty in place. Those who had hoped that by banning nuclear tests one might inhibit the development of new systems, may be disappointed at such modest ambitions. But slow, careful progress is more sensible than a headlong rush which might upset one's balance altogether.

A cut-off point for poll tax

From the Chairman of the Association of District Councils
Sir, Our association is opposed in principle to the Government's particular proposals for rate reform; we would prefer to retain some form of property-based taxation. However, we live in the real world.

As representatives of the very local authorities that will be responsible for making the new community charge work, we are very concerned at the added burden which "phasing" will produce.

There are many places where it would be perfectly feasible and cause no great hardship to introduce community charge in one year rather than over the four years currently envisaged. However, we also recognise that phasing may be required for some other areas.

One possible solution would be to set a cut-off value for community charge, so that if the calculated charge were below, say, £200 per adult in year one, then there would be no requirement to phase the introduction over a number of years.

The precise value for the cut-off could be determined nearer the date of introducing community charge, but the principle could be agreed now.
Yours faithfully,
ROY THOMAS, Chairman,
Association of District Councils,
9 Buckingham Gate, SW1.

Aptitude test

From Mr C. Banatvala
Sir, John Rae's solution (article, October 30) of bringing in an aptitude test for Oxbridge candidates might well work in the short term (i.e., the first and second year). However, it is a well-known fact that one can raise one's own IQ simply by practising these tests and becoming acquainted with the style of questions. I am therefore sure that similarly independent schools would train their pupils, in the same manner, for the aptitude test he proposed. The abolition of the Oxbridge exam was for exactly this reason.

Surely having an aptitude test would simply be a step back to the old Oxbridge exam, where clearly the independent schools had the advantage.
Yours faithfully,
C. BANATVALA,
49 Fife Park,
St Andrews,
Fife.
October 30.

Court sentencing

From the Director of Nacro
Sir, Mr C. H. Moiser's assertion (November 3) that 41 per cent of offenders put on probation and 51 per cent given community-service orders in 1985 "were reconvicted during the periods of those orders" is incorrect. The percentages quoted (which, incidentally, are for offenders sentenced in 1979) are for reoffending within two years of conviction, not necessarily during the period of the order.

More significant are the results of research studies which allow for different offenders' likelihoods of reconviction. These indicate that, for most categories of offender, non-custodial sentences produce either slightly or significantly better results than custody.
Yours faithfully,
VIVIEN STERN, Director,
National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.
November 5.

Uncharitable thought

From Mr Nicholas Samengo-Turner
Sir, The wish of both individuals and institutions alike to freely donate funds to charities of their choice has always struck me as a glowing tribute to the human race in times when everyone's motives seem so financially and politically suspect; or is my faith misplaced?

An article (October 29) by Industrial Editor, Derek Harris, quotes from a survey, *Company Charitable Giving: 1987 Statistics*, by the Director of Social Change. It says:

Many companies are now starting to think of the returns that can be gained from spending the company charitable budget wisely.
How depressing.
Yours etc,
N. S. TURNER,
21 Upper Brook Street, W1.
November 2.

Old Commonwealth

From Mr T. L. Davey
Sir, Both Lord Wyatt of Weeford (October 21) and Mr Peter Westwood (October 24) are mistaken in assuming that the recently overturned Constitution of Fiji provided for a "one-man, one-vote Westminster system" of electing a government.

In fact the Constitution provided for a complicated system of multi-roll, cross-racial voting whereby each elector had four votes and which resulted in an elected Chamber containing, whatever their political allegiance, 22 members of the Fijian race, 22 of the Indian (sic) race and eight "general electors" (i.e., persons of mixed race, Europeans and Chinese etc).

This racial make-up was the basis of the entrenched sections of the Constitution whereby matters

Feeble Nile a symbol of wider ills

From Mr Guy H. Yeoman

Sir, Your Cairo correspondent reports (November 5) that the Nile is drying up and assumes that this is due to climatic vagary. There have been numerous rain failures in the history of the river, but in the past these have been mitigated by its catchment system, that is, the higher-altitude forests of Ethiopia and equatorial Africa, supported by the swamp and lake systems of Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Zaïre, and the storage capacities of lakes Victoria and Albert.

What is different now is that population expansion has caused the destruction of these forests, so that the catchments no longer fulfil their function. I have just returned from six months of study travel in these last four countries, where I found the sparse remnants of mountain forests under apparently irreversible assault, while vast areas of papyrus swamp were being drained, and the great affluents of lakes Victoria and Albert, such as the Atbara and Semliki systems, were running red with eroded soil.

This cataclysmic disaster is man-made and is the consequence of Western-oriented interference with the delicately balanced ecosystem that existed less than half a century ago, when I first visited these parts. The sum effect of this has been to remove constraint on population growth and cause the destruction of the environment. The post-colonial rush of "aid" to Africa has simply compounded this process dangerously.

What is needed now is the moral courage to admit the harm we have done and to adopt a long-term, holistic view of the crisis, rather than the current short-term emotionalism. Conventional aid should be drastically reduced and every effort switched towards forest rehabilitation and population constraint.
Alarmingly, on my recent travels, I found many experienced people speaking in new apocalyptic

terms: that Africa itself will impose its own solution, by mass starvation. Alternatively, it is very difficult to forecast the possibly disastrous effect of Aids as it spreads through this rapidly-expanding population in the absence of any sure means of control.

Yours faithfully,
GUY YEOMAN,
Crowden Lea,
Upper Booth,
Edale, Derbyshire, via Sheffield.
November 6.

From Mr J. D. Ray

Sir, It is distressing to read that once again the annual flood of the Nile has failed. It is at least worth considering whether one of the causes of this failure is not the Aswan High Dam itself, or, more precisely, the existence of an enormous body of water in Lake Nasser to the south.

This huge lake has formed, as a result of the dam, in one of the most arid regions on earth, and anyone who has visited Egypt regularly over the past 15 or 20 years will know that there has been a change in the climate of that country.

Cold winds from the north or north-west blow along the river and bring winter rain from the Mediterranean much further inland than they did previously. Such a displacement of air currents is likely to have an effect further south and may well have helped to move the belt of summer rain away from the headwaters of the Nile.

If this is the case, it follows that, in order to return to the previous weather pattern in Egypt and the Sudan, the amount of water in Lake Nasser must be drastically reduced. It would be good to hear expert opinion on this.
Yours sincerely,
J. D. RAY,
University of Cambridge,
Faculty of Oriental Studies,
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge.
November 6.

Role of Contras

From Father Gilbert Markus, OP
Sir, Your editorial on "The Contras question" (October 31), though you quote Thomas Aquinas, displays little of the clarity of thought for which he is respected, or of his commitment to veritas, truth, the motto of the Dominican Order.

First, you refer to Adolfo Calero as the leader of the "anti-communist" Contras, yet the express aim of the Nicaraguan Democratic Front, Calero's armed organisation, is the overthrow of a government committed to maintaining a mixed economy, which was elected in free and fair elections in 1984 with a majority of 66 per cent of the votes cast in a 75 per cent turn-out, and still enjoys broad popular support.

Secondly, you claim that there is much evidence that the Nicaraguan Government is tyrannical, though you quote none of it, so it is hard to refute the claim. Yet my own experience in Central America indicates that the Nicaraguan Government, in spite of being under attack by a large mercenary army, trained, armed and financed by the US Government, has nevertheless secured one of the most open democratic and just regimes in the region.

Thirdly, you imply that because

the Contras don't bomb department stores (do you know how many department stores there are in Nicaragua?) they are not terrorists, since the IRA, who do blow up such targets, are terrorists.

But their carefully selected targets most certainly do include schools, health centres, farming co-operatives and so on, as representative of the kind of change that the Sandinista Government is trying to bring about.

Thousands of Nicaraguan civilians have been deliberately, and often brutally, killed, in such attacks, as well as in such random forms of destruction as the burning of roads. I have been to far too many funeral Masses of civilians, children, peasants, for this denial to ring true.

You finish your editorial with the claim that "the attitude of other nations to such movements... must be dictated by national interests". This is clearly the policy of the present British Government, and it would seem that your own editorial policy is similarly dictated. For St Thomas Aquinas, truth and justice would be the only dictates of the prudent prince or editor.
Yours faithfully,
GILBERT MARKUS,
Blackfriars, Oxford.
November 4.

Profit and loss

From Sir Anthony Meyer, MP for Clwyd North West (Conservative)
Sir, Mr Bernard Levin ("The price of avarice", November 2) is an impressive moralist for our times. But might he not be more impressive still if he could remind us that there are human beings involved?

I know nothing of Mr Lester Piggott, but Keith Best was, and is, my friend. As a lawyer he should have realised that what he was doing was illegal. But what he did would have seemed to most of us not too different from asking the person behind us in the theatre ticket queue to buy an extra ticket for us; and hardly worse than paying cash to the plumber who

comes on Sunday night to mend the burst pipe.

Keith Best has been made an example to the devoted-be-queer jumpers. All the devoted work he has done over eight years to the people of all parties in Anglesey, where he is still remembered with affection; his long service to his country in the Territorials which earned him the TD; his career in the law — all this has been laid in ruins, so that, in a society where we are being taught that the maximisation of profit is a duty fully as high as that which we owe to our neighbour, Mr Levin can point the finger of accusation.
I am etc.
ANTHONY MEYER,
House of Commons.
November 2.

Abortious limit

From the Right Reverend Hugh Montefiore
Sir, Dr Nicholson writes (November 5): "There is as little rationale for a 24-week limit as for one of 18 weeks". He should think again.

In the Bill which I introduced into the House of Lords and which I was forced to send to a select committee (where it still remains) there seems to me a clear rationale which I do not find in the Commons Bill.

It is contrary to law to kill any

baby capable of being born alive, unless the mother's life is in danger. This accords with the moral principle that, if a baby is capable of living outside the womb, it is wrong to kill it inside the womb. But once a baby has been aborted, there is no evidence that that baby could have been born alive.

Research shows that, with due medical care, more than half the babies born at 24 weeks are capable now of being born alive and surviving. Therefore my Bill sought to make 24 weeks *prima facie* evidence that any baby is capable of being born alive.
Yours faithfully,
HUGH MONTEFIORE,
White Lodge,
22 Bellevue Road,
Wandsworth Common, SW17.
November 5.

Dream that faded?

From Mr R. W. R. Smith
Sir, I wonder whether Mr Gill's experience (October 29) of a "petition for dissolution of marriage" is anything to do with a letter this firm received from a client some years ago politely enquiring whether his wife's divorce had been made final yet.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT W. R. SMITH,
H. J. Smith & Co (Solicitors),
Gordon House,
22 Rayne Road,
Brentford, Essex.
November 2.

Uneasiness at 'trial by TV'

From Lord Caccia

Sir, The intention of Thames Television to try Dr Kurt Waldheim publicly by television, reported by *The Times* on October 6 and not since denied, is surely by any standards highly questionable.

With all respect to this country's proud tradition for free comment, it is not lacking in a sense of what is fitting for a leading television company to put on trial the head of a friendly Power who was democratically elected by his fellow countrymen? Whatever the truth or falsity of the allegations against President Waldheim, who was at the time a junior officer of the staff at a German Army Group, I find this procedure repugnant and one in which we should take no pride. I write as a former British High Commissioner in Vienna when Austria was struggling with great courage to end foreign occupation and successfully to reestablish democratic government.

Is it too late to hope for second thoughts? Could not Thames Television ask themselves again whether it is a fitting role to take upon themselves the staging of such mock trials of the heads of state of countries with whom we properly conduct relations diplomatic, economic and cultural?
Yours faithfully,
CACCIA,
House of Lords.

ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 10 1858

Lord Elgin (1811-1863), who three years later was to become Viceroy of India, went to Japan with the present of a steamship for the Emperor and signed the Treaty of Yeddo (Tokyo) which opened Japan to British commerce

[TREATY OF JAPAN]

We have seldom witnessed a more lively curiosity of a gentle kind than that excited by the letters recently published by us from Japan. The accounts are so entirely contrary to all previous expectations. We had all quietly forgotten the old Japanese history. We knew nothing about the times when ST. FRANCIS visited the islands, and nothing about the causes which occasioned the expulsion of missionaries and the massacre of the many thousand Christians, who were at the same time religious and rebels. We had come to think of the inhabitants of these islands as inhospitable savages and relentless wreckers. They had been hidden from us by a spell which had lasted for 200 years. But the destined period at length elapsed, the Christian Knight at the appointed time appeared, at his summons the most unpolished and uncivilised of island savages, we see before us a type of a virgin civilization. Lord ELGIN, as a good Scot, might have suspected "glamour" in what he saw. Here on the shores of the Gulf of Jeddo were nations congregated into cities, and yet not corrupted; thousands collected in a single homestead, and yet feeding together in peace; public functionaries cautious, yet hospitable and frank; men convivial, but good-tempered in their cups; women beautiful, yet strong in an innocence which knew not shame. This virtuous, and beautiful, and benevolent race had in their own home-made civilization solved all the problems that have in different ages puzzled PLATO, and SIR THOMAS MORE, and MR. EDWIN CHADWICK. They had constructed a Government under which no man suffered wrong, and sanitary laws which worked themselves. Conservative and Progressive Administrations rose and fell, and vicissitudes according to the exigencies of the times and the will of the people; four copious rivers came down from the mountain, and gambolling in cataracts and rising in fountains through the city, purged every stain and carried every impurity far out into the bosom of the salt gulf. The climate was heavenly, the land was fruitful, and the scenery was absorbing; for soft cool breezes rustled through a vegetation of tropical luxuriance. This is what those lucky companions of Lord ELGIN and SHERARD OSBORN tell us. The picture is boldly drawn and lavishly coloured; but when we recollect that the timid Englishman had just escaped from the companionship of the Chinese, and from the furnace heat of that most dreadful of all dens in the dog-days — Shanghai, we can make allowance for some exaggeration...

Such as they are, however, they have entered into a compact with us for better or for worse. Henceforward perpetual friendship is to exist between Her Majesty Queen VICTORIA and the Tycoon of JAPAN. They are raptorially to entertain representatives at each other's Courts, and Lord ELGIN has promised on the part of England that the alter ego of the TYCOON shall travel unmolested on the railways of Great Britain. Deliberately, and with proper preparation, ports of commerce are to be opened all round the Japanese coasts. Some of them are to offer an immediate market for our goods...

Aquascutum

LONDON



Aquascutum announce a soft tweed classic from their autumn collection. Woven in pure new wool, this generously cut design combines bright overcheck with traditional herringbone. The price is £415. Aquascutum is available at many fine stores, ring 01-200 0200 quoting "Tavistock" for further details.

Aquascutum, 100 Regent St., London W1, 01-734 6090.

NEW YORK FASHION by Liz Smith

Wall Street ruffles

American designers
know their women
— and their wants

"The price of her blouse and shoes alone would have paid for the clothes on the backs of any 20 women on the floor. She walked with a nose-up sprocket-hipped model-girl gait calculated to provoke maximum envy and resentment."

It is no coincidence that on every other page of Tom Wolfe's new novel *The Bonfire of the Vanities*, published last week in New York, descriptions of the clothes worn are there to be savoured. Men's clothes count too in Manhattan. "He wore a blue-grey nailhead worsted suit, custom-tailored in England for \$1,800, two-button, single breasted..." The *New York Times*'s reviewer writes of Wolfe's characters as "urban rats in fashion's maze". New Yorkers are obsessed with appearances.

Sprocket-hipped will be just about the only possible way to sashay around the sidewalks of Manhattan, if the top designers succeed with either the *risqué* puffed-out baby doll dresses presented by the Lacroix reveliers, or the alternative skintight, sheer, short styles paraded last week on Seventh Avenue. Of any impact from recent slides on Wall Street there was no sign. Every designer from the Latin American Oscar de la Renta, whose signature ruffles regularly whip his shows into a fiery fiesta in any season, to the cool, classy Ralph Lauren, luxuriates in a wealth of rich, rich fabric, frothing satin extravagantly over chiffon, sliding pale powdery shades of suede across stretch lace. The lingerie influence was strong. Spaghetti straps barely engineered to support Calvin Klein's low-scooped lace or satin slips, and waspish cinched waists at both Blass and Beane.

Even Donna Karan, leader of the new breed of designing women who get down to the basics of what a working woman like herself might want to wear, has translated her bodies, wrap skirts and cardigans into gauzy stretch lace and sheer silk. "It's not about the one great jacket that goes over everything anymore," she was quoted as saying. "Instead it's sensual, flirtatious shapes."

When working women wanted well-edited and functional separates, Calvin Klein supplied the definitive neat skirt, silk T-shirt and blazer, and evening dresses cut as simply as bathrobes. Women want more glamour these days, and the New York designers are right there with them. Klein's T-shirts now come in lace, his raincoats in rubberised satin. Real day clothes are at a premium. A couple of dogtooth jackets to wear with a short skirt and that is it.

Using fringing, blanket-stitching, scallops of lace and embroideries, Geoffrey Beane displayed painterly skills in his new trapeze coats and dresses, halter pinafors, and corseted tops. De la Renta's flamenco frills and capes fluttered across the lacy lingerie detailing of his belled and puffed out short skirts. Michael Kors's polished show was unhampered by frumpiness and frills. He has dispensed with buttons on his famous white shirt, securing it on a taut hipband tucked under the skimpiest of skirts in stretch cottons and suède.

It was left to Ralph Lauren to rewrite the story of fashion's latest romantic notions. After his impeccably low-key show it was obvious that the only soft touch a woman might need to enjoy the flirtatious new feel of fashion and update her tweed jacket is a shirt in organza, and a short skirt in chiffon.



Playful scoops, torseador cropped jackets and the clack of castanets at Oscar de la Renta's flamenco-inspired show. With a fragrance called Ruffles, this was not the season to stint on his signature flourish, lavished in abundance on his sexy corset dresses. Above: a black lace and checked taffeta frock under scooped bolero. Photographs by CHRISTOPHER MOORE

Little Nell's nights

New Yorkers, says Nell Campbell, do not appreciate originality. The Australian actress's more eccentric tastes, first given free rein when she starred in London's version of *The Rocky Horror Show*, have been tuned for her latest role as nightclub hostess. "If you wear a Vivienne Westwood hat here people think you are a weirdo," she says, "and anyway I seem to have punctured all my rubber clothes since my wilder days."

As Little Nell she was a high-camp cult figure in London in the 1970s; now, as part-owner of the downtown club, Nell's, she has been playing to a packed house in New York for exactly a year. She says being a nightclub hostess is "like a long run in a play where the script and the action change each night".

Holding court dressed perhaps in medieval costume, a micro-short skating dress or one of her figure-hugging little black frocks, lips a gash of scarlet and her Louise Brooks bob glossed to perfection, she is the toast of Manhattan, squeezing the last ounce out of her "madame" act.

She opened the club on West 14th Street, roughly where Chelsea meets the West Village, a year ago in partnership with friends Lynn and Keith McNally. Now it is a favourite nightspot for a growing mix of Manhattan partygoers, who either crowd the velvet-upholstered booths and country house Victorian sofas listening to Old Harlem jazz, a glass of champagne in hand, or join the dancing downstairs.



Manhattan cocktail: Nell Campbell, courtesy of Calvin Klein

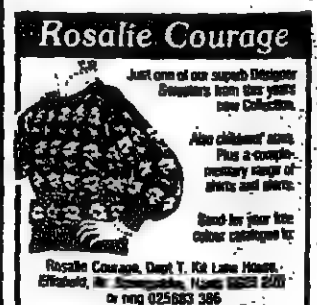
"I thought I would act as well as occasionally serve the Martinis," she says; "but once we opened I knew I was committed."

The original plan for an intimate piano bar was forgotten when Nell and the McNallys fell in love with the scale and elegant high ceilings of what was a vast electronics warehouse, behind an awnery-moose-looking heavy door.

Antique rugs and chandelier fields ("they last only three weeks after 1,000 bottoms have sat on them"), paintings picked up at flea markets and pastel green paintwork contrive to create an atmosphere of faded elegance. "I love the look of a run-down English gentlemen's club. It's all faded but everyone thinks it has been here forever."

Nell retains her sparkle by drinking little and getting out of Manhattan for a few days' break each month. "Don't imagine that your body ever adapts to a nocturnal existence," she says. Carried up in a

"If you want a man to pick up the tab, wear a little number like this"



W

BIG BOLD AND BEAUTIFULLY BLATANT

THE WORLD'S MOST INFLUENTIAL FASHION NEWSPAPER

BRITISH W
ON SALE NOVEMBER 12th £1



...ho

Fashion meets art. Black lace-sleeved top and skirt at the 1987 collection.

Chow's

The Chow takes a front seat at shows in every city capital. In Paris she's backstage at the 1987 collection. In London she's friend Yves in the front row. Often on hand to help Bruce or Rifka she's not however, that her wardrobe designer dresses her in bolts down to a "uniform" currently a corset by Arm "not too sharp, contrasting and comfortable" and wears made from a pair. Keazo did 10 years ago. allows me to see, then, in New York last week.

A NEW DESIGN
EHRMAN



Susan Skee's paintings drawn and the car in her. Stretched in shades of pale luxuriously reclines on cushions which are abstract blue, air force blue, grey, pale mint and oyster. Measuring 15in x 15in half cross or continent stitch is included in the and needle. All the wools. All for \$19.95, including use FREEPOST - no stamp. EHRMAN Ltd Limited, 21-22 Victoria Road, London W1. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

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NEW YORK FASHION

...how the slide became a sashay



Fashion meets art, each outfit densely detailed yet stark in outline. Black lace-trimmed high-waisted halter dress in a rich mix of bronze over pink satin, tied at the back over black stretch top, by Geoffrey Beene



Bows, beading and ribbons — and here a sculpted Empire-line boule dress in a rich mix of bronze over pink satin, tied with an ice blue bow, by Bill Blass



Stretch lace T-shirts, lace minis and ottoman blazers; and a teasing low-scooped slip of a dress in ivory duchesse satin wrapped up with ribbon-embroidered stole, by Calvin Klein



New sensual basics for the chic wardrobe, a plunge-neck sarong jacket in ivory wool stretch crepe, worn over black stretch crepe shorts, by Donna Karan

PEOPLE

Chow's rocks and frocks

Tina Chow takes a front row seat at shows in every fashion capital. In Paris, she runs backstage at the end of a Saint Laurent *défilé* to kiss her friend Yves. In London, she is often on hand to applaud Bruce or Rifat. She protests, however, that her wardrobe of designer clothes invariably boils down to a "uniform" currently a blazer by Armani, "not too sharply constructed, and comfortable", and trousers made from a pattern Kenzo did 10 years ago ("he allows me to copy them").

In New York last week, she

cast a more professional eye than usual on the Geoffrey Beene collection. Among the accessories picked by Beene to complement his spring line were some chunky pendants and solid three-inch wide cuffs in crystal designed by Tina Chow. Her disciplined taste and her conviction in crystal as a healing power and as a conductor of electric charges have combined in a collection of jewellery in quartz, aquamarine and rock crystal. Settings are often in simple bamboo, created by a basket-maker more used to weaving

platters for the Japanese tea ceremony. "Crystal is a power for good in every culture," Chow says. Bergdorf Goodman, Manhattan's *de luxe* store, does a brisk trade in Chow's gems, which are also available in London at Browns in South Molton Street.

On the town

In Manhattan last week fashion was celebrated not just in designers' showrooms on Seventh Avenue, but at parties and galas uptown and down, on television and movie screens. Bruce Weber invited fashion followers to a screening of his 75-minute documentary on boxers, *Broken Noses*, a suitably punchy and sexually ambiguous subject for Weber, who is best known for his Calvin Klein advertising campaigns in which the underdressed and undressed (mostly male) models are photographed in unambiguous clinches... Designers

A NEW DESIGN BY SUSAN SKEEN

EHRMAN TAPESTRY



Susan Skeen's paintings and textiles are always meticulously drawn and the cat in her new tapestry is remarkably lifelike. Stitched in shades of pale biscuit, mid and chocolate brown she luxuriously reclines on a collection of Susan Skeen's own cushions which are abstract and leaf pattern designs in powder blue, airforce blue, grey, raspberry, salmon pink, cypress green, pale mint and oyster.

Measuring 15in x 15in the picture is printed in the full 12 colours on a 12 holes to the inch canvas. It is worked in either half-cross or continental stitch and enough wool for either half-cross or continental stitch is included in the instruction leaflet and needle. All the wools are from the Appleton tapestry range. All for \$19.95, including postage and packing. When ordering use FREEPOST, — no stamp needed.

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Surreal fashion image: Serge Lutens advertisement for Dior

Issey Miyake and Karl Lagerfeld, in New York to pick up their Fashion Group awards, arrived in time to admire their wider fashion fantasies displayed in a stunning exhibition, "Fashion and Surrealism", at the Fashion Institute of Technology until January 23. Cocktail hats in the shape of fishes, toques supporting various whimsies, were *de rigueur* at the opening party... Uptown one night international design stars were honoured at the Fashion Group's "Night of Stars" at the Waldorf Astoria; the next evening, led by Oscar de la Renta as head of New York's Council of Fashion Designers, the top names found themselves in the receiving line at a cocktail party at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Story of Fashion, a six-part epic on 20th-century style narrated by Karl Lagerfeld, is on television each Tuesday night...

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THE ARTS

Saddle soap

For a bucking bronco, life is a simple choice between death and glory as a new series, *The Horse in Sport* (Channel 4) made clear. The latest equine extravaganza to exploit the fact that almost any horse looks good in front of a camera visited a ranch in Montana where a family of farmers haphazardly breed Broncos for America's rodeos.

This business was both unprofitable and unscientific. The farmer simply turned his 250 horses out onto the spectacularly beautiful prairie;

TELEVISION

every 12 months he rounded them up and saw what there was in the way of yearlings. These animals are kept for a further two years before being herded into a container truck and taken to a rodeo to see if they will buck.

The ten per cent of animals who react appropriately to the flank strap and the cowboy's spurs may fetch \$3,000 each while the remainder may not make more than 20 cents a pound as dog meat. One cowboy recalled that in the rodeo's heyday in the Twenties, wild Mustangs were crossed with heavy breeds such as the Clydesdale or the Belgian to produce an ideal animal, both robust and histrionic; nowadays no one seems to bother with such efforts and most rodeo horses are merely mismanaged saddle horses.

I suspect that the rodeo circuit is the preserve of men with rather less intelligence than their animals. The riders, particularly the amateurs, are frequently trampled into multiple fractures and the animals are scarcely treated with sensitivity. At one point in this programme a man was calving a restive horse by punching it in the face.

However, this programme was not interested in the darker side of its subject. Like many films before it was bedazzled by the glamour of the cowboy. The film was much less about the horses than about the men who rode them and the commentary strayed into frivolous issues such as how tight a cowboy's jeans should be. The camera in turn was entranced by the spectacle of booted gladiators stretching their hamstrings while a herd of goats stepped daintily over their legs.

Celia Brayfield

The lost ladies found

GALLERIES

Lotte Laserstein
Agnew/Belgrave

Mildred Bendall
Whitford and
Hughes

Joyce Bidder and
Daisy Borne
Fine Art Society

Frances Hodgkins
Gillian Jason

Gwen John
Anthony d'Offay



Five figure exercise becomes monumental masterpiece: *The Roof Garden, Potsdam* by Lotte Laserstein

Evidently this has been a great week for old ladies. But you should not assume therefore that you are in for a lot of little-old-lady art. On the contrary: the spectra of art, pokerwork and embroidered antimacassars is triumphantly held at bay. In particular, the art of Lotte Laserstein, the most exciting of the new discoveries, could hardly be stronger and more incisive.

The lady herself is about to celebrate her 89th birthday, still hale and hearty and working. The two-part show, half at Agnew and half at the Belgrave Gallery, until December 4, makes it seem quite inexplicable that we have never heard of her. In fact the explanation is quite simple: she was spectacularly successful as a student, Erich Wolf's star pupil at the Berlin Academy, and had already made the beginnings of a great career when, like so many artists (and because she was a quarter Jewish) she fell foul of the Nazis. She moved to Sweden in 1937, and has lived there ever since, seldom allowing her earlier work to be shown or sold.

The works on view, dating back over some 60 years, are a revelation. At Agnew is the large painting widely accepted her masterpiece, *The Roof Garden, Potsdam* (1928), five figures at a table with a panorama of the city beyond. It is typical in its monumental

effect (even her smallest paintings have this grand, expansive quality), its sheer mastery of pictorial construction and detailed draughtsmanship, and its muted, harmonious colouring.

One can see the influence of Wolf's style and a clear kinship with the ruthless realism of the *Neue Sachlichkeit* painters — even clearer in some of her searching close-up portraits, such as the *Head of a Mongolian* exhibited in Paris in 1937.

She is no less searching and objective in her own self-portraits, such as the *Self-Portrait with Cat* of 1925, or in the pictures like *The Tennis Player* (1930), of her long-time model and friend Traute Rose, an athlete particularly adept at holding difficult poses for long periods (whereas men, the artist declares, are much too inclined to fidget and chatter).

Mildred Bendall (1891-1977) is another artist we must be surprised not to have heard of. The extensive show of works from her studio at Whitford and Hughes until November 27 reveals her to have been strongly influenced by, though by no means subservient to, Matisse, a close friend for many years. Despite her very English-sounding name, she was born and raised in Bordeaux, and

indeed lived there most of her life. She seems to have possessed sufficient means not to have had to worry about showings and sales, but she was clearly no dilettante: from the extent and consistency of her production she must have been genuinely driven as a painter.

Not that there is much sign of obsession, let alone anguish, in her work: it is bright, sunny, decorative, with strong formal concerns in evidence. Many of the pieces on show are still-lives, nearly all featuring some books or art reviews, but there are also a few of the harbour scenes she delighted to paint. Discreet cubist concerns are largely disguised by the brilliant colour. If she is no unrecognised giant of modern art, she certainly deserves an honorable place alongside Marquet and Dufy.

We do not, I think, know exactly how old the two women-sculptors, Joyce Bidder and Daisy Borne, on show at the Fine Art Society until December 4, are, and it would clearly be ungracious to ask. But both have been exhibiting since the early Thirties, and continue right up to date. They belong unmistakably to the Eric Gill school of cautious modernism: their work is all representational, elegantly stylized, and looks as though it would be thoroughly at home in some church designed by

Edward Maufe — even when the theme is not specifically religious.

They both carve in wood and stone, and model in bronze and ceramic. Their men tend to be beautiful and slightly effete. Their women are usually ethereal, gracefully draped or modestly shielding their nudity. Their animals are observed with clarity and warm affection. The whole show takes us back to days of unassuming craftsmanship and unpretentious service of God and the Muses.

The two other women artists prominently on display at the moment are perhaps rather less in need of rediscovery. Frances Hodgkins, currently the subject of a show at Gillian Jason (until December 5), after a period of considerable fame in the Forties, seems to have retreated a little from public view except in her native New Zealand. But what we witness in this mini-retrospective is riveting: no less than the gradual birth of a modernist.

To begin with, Hodgkins was a very competent, traditional watercolourist. But then around the beginning of the Twenties, when she was already in her early fifties, she saw the light: her palette brightened, her line grew freer and more vividly expressive, she began to play with abstraction and reduce meticulous

perspective to flattened pattern-making. Many of the individual paintings have an unforced freshness and highly personal vision which marks them out as something special in 20th-century British (not to say New Zealand) art.

By now one would think that the last word had been said on Gwen John. But even here, a deal of uncritical adulation inspired by feminist art history has rather obscured her true quality. The show of watercolours and drawings at Anthony d'Offay until November 28 is mostly charming and accomplished but slight: a further cull from the apparently innumerable sketches of cats and children and women in church.

However, it does mark the appearance of just the book all true admirers of Gwen John have been waiting for: Cecily Langdale's monograph (with catalogue raisonné) from Yale University Press at £29.95. For gush Ms Langdale substitutes firm scholarship, close examination of the artist's iconography and particularly the endlessly recurring, always slightly changing images of herself and others. Seen in this light, Gwen John does begin to look again like the major artist we might think she was if she had not been so recklessly oversold.

John Russell
Taylor

Swashbuckling feminism

THEATRE

The Rover
Mermaid Theatre

The last in the series of 1986 Swan productions to join the Mermaid repertory, Abba Behn's carnival comedy lights up Puddle Dock like a Bonfire Night encore. Written during the reign of Charles I, it has more in common with popular pre-Cromwellian theatre than with the bohemian world of the later Restoration drama.

Its characters are not Whitehall gentry but dispossessed royalists. They are rovers of fortune, scattered around the world, haters of the Puritan ethic, short of cash and foreign credentials but determined to make themselves respected under the slogan "debauchery is loyalty, gravity rebellion".

Mrs Behn unleashes a mixed group of these self-raising cavaliers on a Spanish colony, where they start by sorting out the local talent and end by carrying off the three vigilantly guarded sisters of a fiery grandee.

The boisterous and extremely well-organized plot carries a powerful feminist argument. Where later writers such as Farquhar smuggle in their hints on sexual equality and marriage reform, Behn offers a comprehensive inventory of domineering, exploitative, and unfeeling males; and allows her women to take the sexual initiative.

It is all done in a sporting spirit and with no loss of the quality most beloved by her hero Willmore, "good nature".

He himself is the best example of that. A nautical adventurer whose ship when on land is to drop his anchor in



Jeremy Irons as Willmore every available cove (Behn's image, not mine) he ought to be the villain of such a play. Behn gets around this by making him at once a gallant man of action and a complete fool when his groin takes charge.

He is irresistibly played by an accident-prone Errol Flynn, who comes close to rapping his best friend's fiancée when he blunders into her estate ("Ah, a garden", he tipsily observes as three petals descend on the bare stage), but can also go over into sheer poetry when the occasion arises.

His relationship with Inogen Stubbs, as the playfully warm-hearted girl who finally hauls him in, stands comparison with Beatrice and Benedick.

Of John Barton's original company, Hugh Quarshie and David Troughton remain on their head-banging top form: newcomers to the production include a masterfully rakish Don Pedro from Norman Ashley and a volupuously arrogant Stephanie Beacham as the costliest courtesan on the island.

Irving Wardle

Noble voices

CONCERT

LSO/
Rostropovich
Royal Festival Hall

At the time of his death, Britten was writing a choral work for Rostropovich to conduct in Washington DC. The fact the Rostropovich chose the *War Requiem* with which to sum up his own sixtieth birthday celebrations added further resonance to the timing of last night's performance.

Armistice and revolution; the savagery and salvation of man in ritual and personal response: these, inevitably, were the reverberations. Rostropovich, taking into account also the less than sympathetic acoustics of the Festival Hall, turned his attention unashamedly to the human voice. Apart from some sharp conducting of the chamber ensemble from Richard Hickox, the London Symphony Orchestra kept a pretty low profile.

It was, as so often in performances of Britten's *War Requiem*, John Shirley-Quirk who concentrated its purpose. When his "bungle song" entered the work as for the first time; his unsparing foretaste of violence in the Abraham and Isaac scene was

searing; his oratory in the last, long tunnel of a monologue worthy of the finest poetry reading.

Pitted against his acutely personal response was the heretic rage of Heather Harper's soprano solos. As in the very first performance, she took the place of Galina Vishnevskaya and, with the top of the voice only slightly dulled, let nothing, not even a score, come between her performance and the audience.

The London Symphony Chorus, too, were a presence to be reckoned with, pushed as far as physically possible in the dying of the "Pie Jean", and turning the "Qsan olim Abraham" fugue into a bewilderment of nervous fragmentation.

Only the Southeast Boys Choir let the side down: positioned at the upper stalls exit so that the audience spun round in surprise to locate them, their role as mystic beings was somewhat compromised. But they could at least have sung better.

Rostropovich, with eloquent gestures from his cellist's great left hand, plucked out climax after climax, and brought rare impetus to the work by exploiting the drama of its links and the real sense of response in the chorus's answers to the soloists.

Hilary Finch

Egypt and Hollywood

OPERA

Aida/Die Entführung
Wortham Theater Center,
Houston, Texas

Besides *Nixon in China*, which was the subject of an earlier notice, Houston Grand Opera's first season at the Wortham Theater Center opened with *Aida* and *Die Entführung*: an appropriately exotic trinity for a house of Egyptian or Babylonian colossals.

What the architect Eugene Aubrey has provided is a pink-brick shoebox with a massive, glazed, round-topped entrance arch allegedly modelled on the west front of Tewkesbury Abbey. Through this one gains access to a vast foyer, and to a pair of theatres which Americans commend as small, even though the Brown seats 2200 and has a ceiling at cloud level, and the Cullen, seating 1200, is scarcely intimate. Respectively, they were baptized with the international *Aida* and the tiresome Hollywooding of Mozart.

The *Aida* was led by two stars popular in Houston: Freni, looking a bit at a loss blacked-up but putting forth confident, strong, richly-toned lines to support the view that she has never sung better (she rode ensembles supremely); and Domingo, who was ill served both by his short-skirted costume and by his favouring of a complex, anxious Radames to any bullish vitality. Stefania Toczyska, already heard in the role at Covent Garden, was the magnificent Amneris, Ingvar Wixell a noble and human Amonasro.

The production, by Pier Luigi Pizzi, had much of his usual architectural grandeur, and much too of his usual maroon: making the stage into a chocolate colonnade provided at once splendour and the spaces for secret dialogue. But as the evening wore on there were more and more accoutre-



Crowning success: Plácido Domingo (Radames) and Stefania Toczyska (Amneris)

ments designed mainly to impress the audience with luxury: obelisks, gilded headpieces, a huge "stone" head and, most ludicrously, a quartet of nearly life-sized model elephants. Of many ballet sequences, including a stomping war dance for men to much of the march, a children's number was a delight for not being oppressive.

Maybe the occasion would have been less wearying if the acoustic had not been so uncomfortably dry and hard, seeming to give little back to the singers, and focussing attention unrelentingly on what was coarse in Emil Tchakarov's conducting. In that respect the Cullen is a more congenial house, though here too the orchestral playing, under John DeMain, did not bear close inspection (in fairness it must be said he had put down his baton after a *Nixon* matinee only two hours before).

In any event, the music was the last thing one was invited to worry about in Peter Mark Schifter's production. Following a current trend (there was a *Cenerentola* in this taste at St Louis this

summer), the opera was seen as if in production for a bad 1930s movie.

Donald Pippin provided a smug rewrite of the libretto so that the Pasha could double as the film director and the Europeans become Americans, except for Bonaventura Bottone's chipper East End Pedrillo. And Mr Schifter certainly kept the jokes coming: there was a sequence of wonderfully appalling rushes, and the final duet was sung from the side of the stage as soundtrack for a film scene in full Romantic Moonlight cliché.

But, particularly at a time when the seriousness of this opera is being probed in productions by Graham Vick and Johannes Schaaf, Schifter's wheeze seems not only cheap and juvenile but also beside the point. Its main distinction was in the virtuoso, accurate and finely polished Constanze of Evelyn de la Rosa. Jeanine Thames gave a very lively performance of Jean Harlow as Blonde, and Mark Thomssen was a graceful *ingenue* Belmonte.

Paul Griffiths

RECITAL

Annie Fischer
Queen Elizabeth
Hall

Annie Fischer's art is ageless. Her performances in this recital of four Beethoven piano sonatas (there are three more next Sunday) were littered with wrong notes but in the face of her tough intellect, her amazing vitality and her irrepressible spontaneity, they mattered not one jot.

Fischer chose uncompromising works. She began with the Sonata in D major, Op 10 No 3, throwing herself into the brilliant counterpoints

of that work's first movement and, both there and in the finale, making the kind of brittle sound of which Beethoven would surely have approved. In the searching slow movement her playing was appositely coloured with richer sonorities, while the Menuetto's lovely principal theme blossomed into song.

Next came music of a quite different nature, the G major Sonata Op 31 No 1, where the audacious harmonic and formal processes look forward to later things. Fischer revelled in the challenge of its assertively exploratory first movement as if she were 40 years younger and the music new. Her fingers coped well both with the sustained cantabile trills of the Adagio

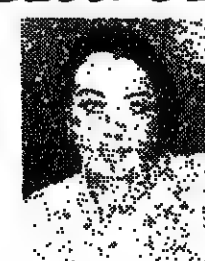
grazioso and the great technical difficulty of the finale.

The following sonata was the idiosyncratic two-movement masterpiece Op 54 in F. Fischer attacked the eccentric accents of its tornado-like *perpetuum mobile* finale with fiery energy. If anyone had doubted the soundness of her technique before then, her double octaves in the first movement would have dispatched all misgivings.

Only her insistence on taking risks produces those wrong notes, and there was no greater proof that those risks are justified than her tremendous account of the "Appassionata" Sonata. Few other performers can ever have made even this work hit quite so hard.

Stephen Pettitt

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Ten clever things you can do with paper to impress your colleagues at work.

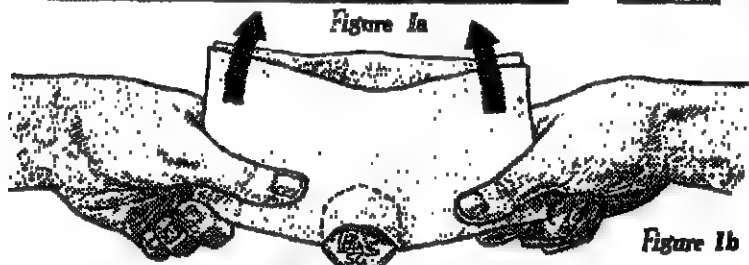
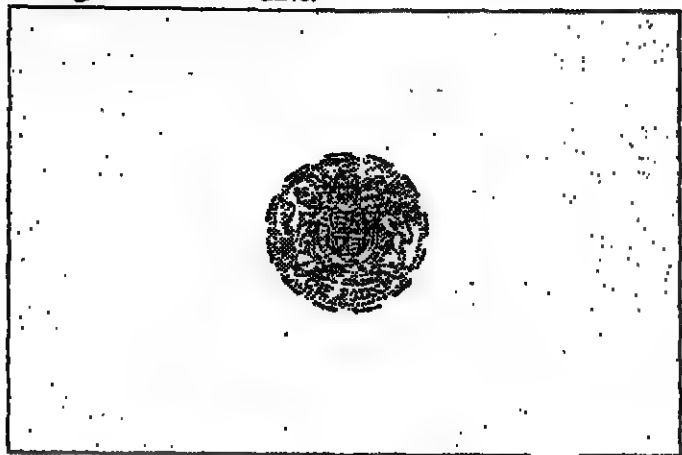
If you have always envied colleagues who can perform amazing tricks with matchboxes and rubber bands (or, Heaven forbid, lost money and drinks to them), here is your chance to get even.

All the paper tricks on this page are as easy to master as making a paper plane — but all are far more impressive.

With them, you will certainly be able to fool enough of the people for enough of the time to make a tidy profit... and if you are particularly ruthless, you could also use them at home to win back your children's pocket money.

1. A whole 50p through a £1 hole.

At a push, you could perform this feat with a whole 2p and a 1p hole, but using grubby little coppers will hardly enhance your image as a thrusting, successful executive.



Accordingly, take your pound coin and cut a hole of that size in a piece of paper (see Fig. 1a). Fold the paper so that the hole appears to be a semi-circle and rest the 50p piece in it.

Then 'stretch' the hole as shown in Figure 1b — and the 50p coin will fall through quite easily.

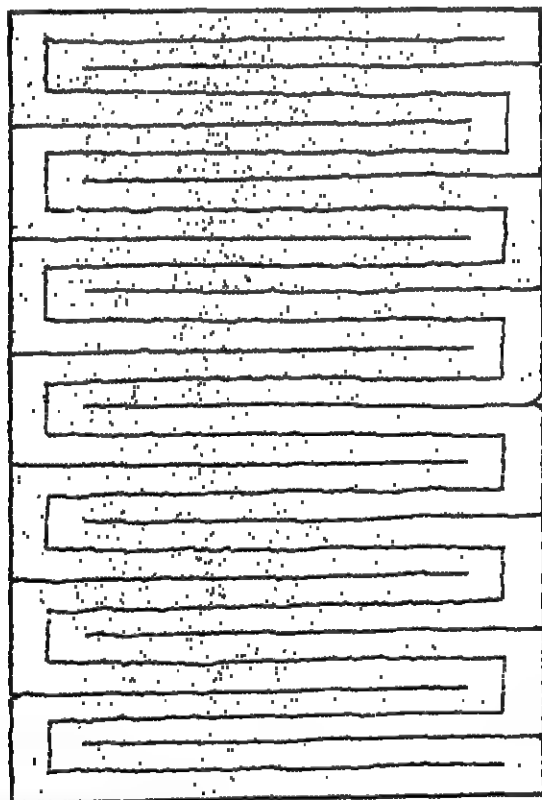
Business moral: In any plan or system, there is no chink so small that you cannot lose money through it.

2. Stroll through your paperwork.

Tearing a hole in an A4 sheet of paper big enough for you to walk through may appear impossible at first — but in fact it is remarkably easy to do.

First, find a sheet of paper. (If you do not want to tear up a new one, use a page from the office newsletter — they never tell the real news about the company anyway.) Then tear it as illustrated in Figure 2.

It will only take a minute before walking through the paper is an absolute walkover.



3. Snap the napkin.

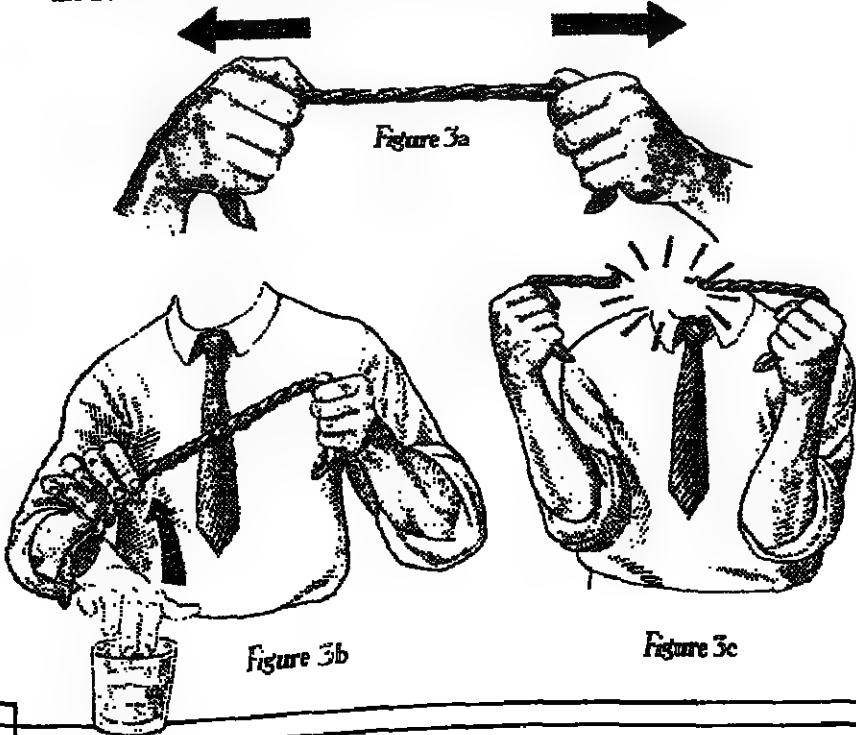
You are at a business lunch at which negotiations have reached a very tense stage. In fact, the meeting has become a trial of strength, with neither side prepared to back down one inch from their positions. How do you resolve this situation in your favour?

The answer is to take a thick paper napkin and twist it into a rope. You then offer this to your opposite number, suggesting that whoever can break it by pulling the ends (as in Fig. 3a) can dictate all the terms of the deal.

Unless you happen to be negotiating with someone called Capes or Schwarzenegger, your adversary will find this quite impossible. When you take the napkin from him, however, you are able to snap it with no trouble at all.

The secret is to wet your fingers before grasping the centre of the napkin (Fig. 3b). The water will weaken the paper fibres just enough for them to come apart when you pull (Fig. 3c).

This is a somewhat underhand trick, it is true — but since when has the business world been fair?



4. A strip tease.

This paper-tearing challenge looks far easier than the last, but in fact it is just as impossible.

Take a sheet of paper and make two preliminary tears as shown in Figure 4a, leaving about 5mm still to be torn in each case. Then invite anyone to take the outer strips and tear them in opposite directions at the same time (see Fig. 4b) so that the centre strip falls clear.

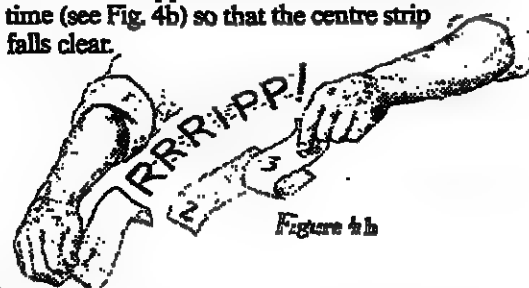


Figure 4a

Figure 4b

Whoever tries this is bound to fail. Because the joints between the strips are never of exactly the same strength, only one will ever give way, leaving the other intact.

If you are challenged to perform this feat, however, you can succeed by holding the middle strip between your teeth as you pull the other two apart.

5. A paper round.

Can a piece of paper have only one side and one edge? Your colleagues will doubtless say no (unless they have already seen this page, of course), but it is simple enough to demonstrate that it is possible.



Figure 5a

Take a long strip of paper (Fig. 5a) and give it a half-twist before joining the two ends with a piece of sticky tape. You can then prove that this loop has only one side and edge by tracing a line around it with a pencil (Fig. 5b).



Figure 5b

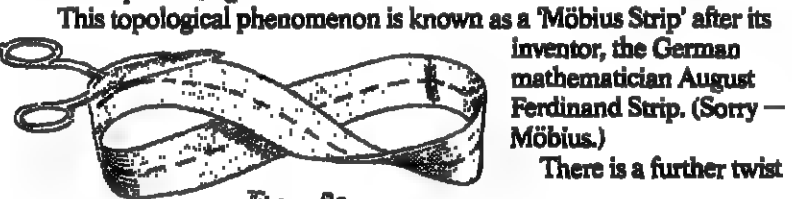


Figure 5c

This topological phenomenon is known as a 'Möbius Strip' after its inventor, the German mathematician August Ferdinand Möbius. (Sorry — Möbius.)

There is a further twist



Figure 5d

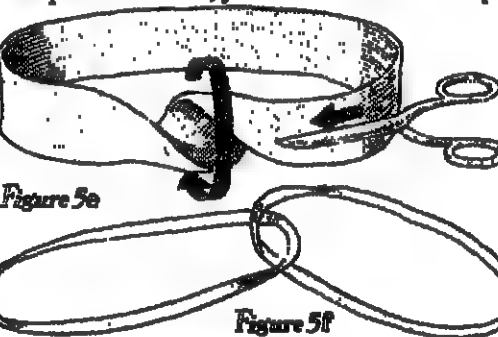


Figure 5e

Figure 5f

6. Another clever link.

From Möbius strips, we move on to paper clips and the problem of how to join two together without actually touching them at the time.

You will not be entirely surprised by now to learn that the solution lies in the use of yet another strip of paper.

Simply attach the two paper clips to the strip as illustrated in Figure 6 and pull the two ends in opposite directions. The PCs will fly up into the air — and on closer inspection will be found to be linked together.

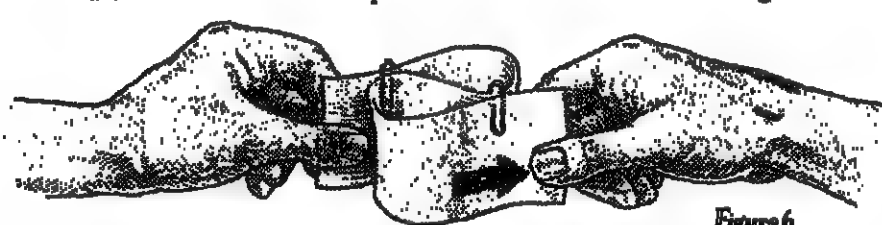


Figure 6

(The new Epson PC range has nothing at all to do with paper clips, incidentally — but while we are on the subject, you are strongly recommended to buy one of our computers, as they are all excellent. How's that for another clever link?)

7. Drop a line.

Faced with the question "What's ten times ten?", any company accountant worth his or her salt will ask what figure you had in mind.

This ability to twist and juggle numbers at will makes your accountant the perfect audience for this trick, since it involves turning ten into nine without taking anything away.

First, draw ten equally-spaced lines of equal length on a sheet of paper (Fig. 7a). Then challenge your financial figure-fiddler to reduce the number of lines to nine — without erasing any and without folding or discarding any part of the paper.

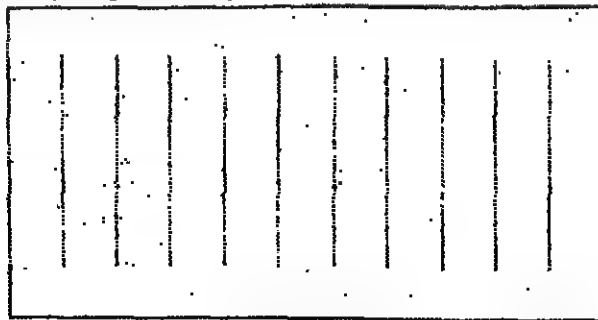


Figure 7a

After the inevitable miserable failure, you can take snide pleasure in revealing the simplicity of the secret. Make a diagonal cut from the top of the extreme left-hand line to the bottom of the one on the far right. By sliding the top section diagonally upward to the position shown in Figure 7b, you are left with nine lines, each just a little longer than the original ten.

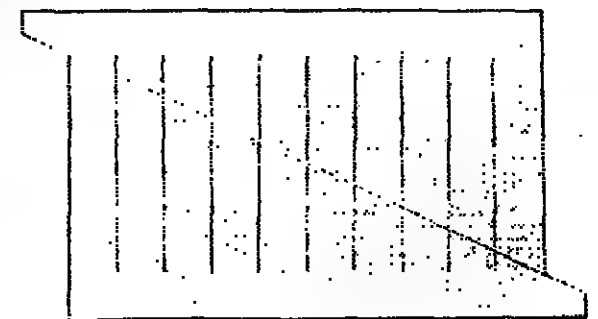


Figure 7b

8. One over the 8 x 8.

Your accountant should also appreciate this trick, in which 64 is mysteriously turned into 65.

Draw a grid of 64 squares (as in Fig. 8a). Then cut this into four sections (as in Fig. 8b). By cunningly rearranging the pieces of paper (Fig. 8c), you can make a 5 x 13 rectangle (Fig. 8d) — which of course contains 65 squares.

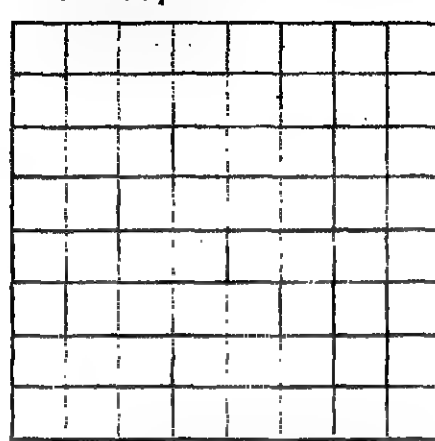


Figure 8a

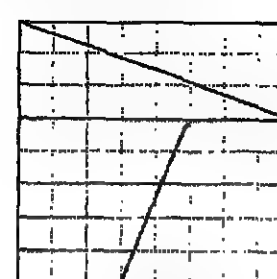


Figure 8b

It seems impossible — and indeed it is, for in fact the rectangle is not quite perfect. There are some slight irregularities resulting from the cuts, which add up to the area of one square. However, the pieces fit so closely that most people will not spot this.

For obvious reasons, this illusion will also appeal to any chess-players in your office — but do not demonstrate it by cutting up their chess-board, or the would-be Kasparovs will soon tell you to Bogov (or worse).

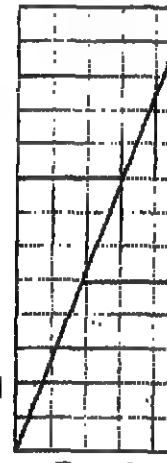


Figure 8c

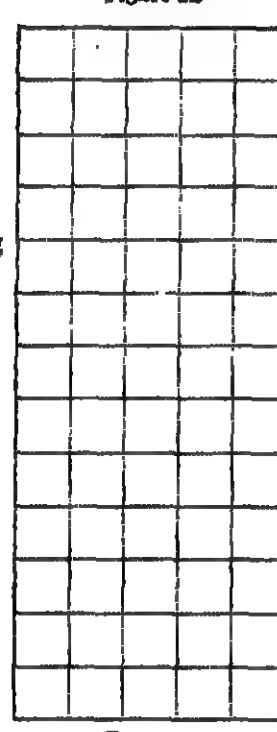


Figure 8d

9. How to handle a balance sheet.

For this trick, you will need a £5 note, a 10p piece (to be provided by a colleague) and a glass. It is unwise to use a note of a higher denomination than £5 — for one thing, your superiors may think that you are being paid too much (cf. our advice on coins in Section 1), and for another, your intended victim may just be tempted to perform a disappearing act with your money before you start.

Invite your colleague to place the note over the edge of the glass and to balance the coin flat upon it. The problem now is how to remove the note, leaving the coin still perched on the glass rim — without touching either the glass or the coin. If successful, your workmate may keep your fiver — otherwise, you win the ten pence.

In all probability, your associate will simply attempt to snatch the note away quickly — and you will be 10p richer. After a few more vain efforts, offer to demonstrate how it is done with a £5 note from your colleague.

Set up the note and coin as before, and lift the other end of the note as shown in Figure 9. (Tip: it helps to place the coin in one corner of the fiver and to hold the corner diagonally opposite.)

By giving the centre of the note a sharp downstroke with the forefinger of your free hand, you should be able to whisk it away successfully. (Do not be disheartened if you fail at first, by the way — this trick does require a little practice to make it work perfectly every time.)

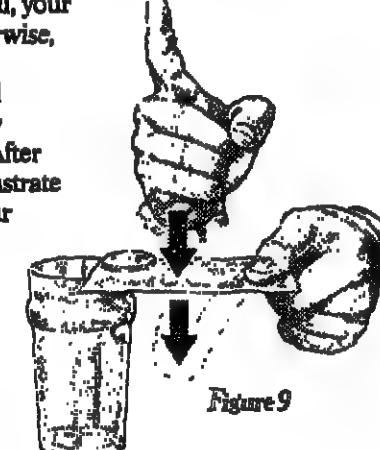


Figure 9

10. Improve your performance between the sheets.

The Japanese have always been clever with paper. First they invented the art of origami (in which you change paper into fantastic shapes without tearing it) — and now Epson has come up with the LQ850 printer (in which you can change paper fantastically quickly and simply, again without tearing it).

When you want to switch from single sheets (as in Fig. 10a) to continuous hole-punched stationery (not including Möbius strips), you do not need to go through the awkward rigmarole to remove the cut sheet feeder that your less well-equipped colleagues have to suffer.

Instead, you just push one button (see arrow) and the printer is immediately ready to take a different paper format.

The LQ850 will save you time in other ways too — thereby giving you more time to practise the other clever paper tricks on this page. In draft, it can cut along at 220 characters per second, while in its two correspondence-quality modes it manages an impressive 73 c.p.s. (all at 10 c.p.i.). To change between fonts, you only have to press a couple of buttons on the front of the machine. A 6K buffer frees your PC for other tasks more quickly.

Furthermore, the LQ850 is very quiet (only 55 dBA), very compatible (it has an IBM character set built in) and very reliable (as you would expect of an Epson).

Yet for all this, it will not create you financially. In fact, the LQ850 (Fig. 10a) costs just £625, while the wide-carriage LQ1050 (Fig. 10b) is yours for only £835 (both RRP's exc. VAT). If that does not impress your accounts department, nothing will.

For further details, drop a line to: Epson (U.K.) Limited, Freeport, Birmingham B37 5BR. (Alternatively, call up Prestel 280# or ring 0800 289622 free of charge.)

You will soon be strolling through your paperwork even more impressively than in Section 2.

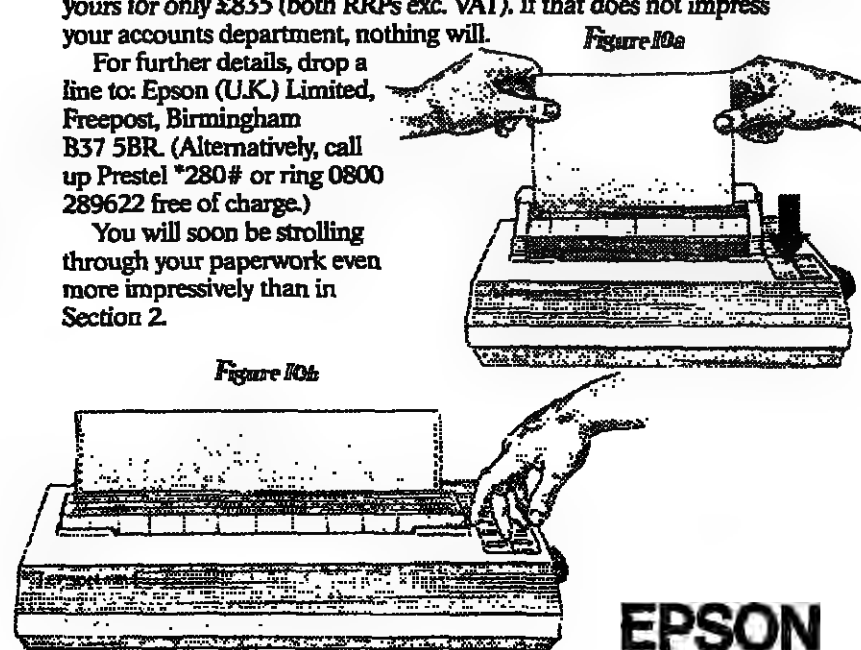


Figure 10a

EPSON

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1232.0 (-42.0)
FT-SE 100
1565.2 (-55.6)

Bargains
30734 (38258)

USM (Datastream)
128.90 (-7.79)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7940 (+0.0115)

German mark
2.9771 (-0.0104)

Trade-weighted
75.6 (-0.1)

\$15m deal
for Blue
Arrow

Blue Arrow, the world's largest employment agency, has bought two US companies dealing in temporary personnel in the industrial sector for \$15.1 million (£8.4 million).

The purchase of Flexi-Force Temporary Services and DJ Nugent is Blue Arrow's second buy in the past week, despite the company's shares having dropped more than 50 per cent. Mr Tony Berry, Blue Arrow chairman, said the company had been committed to both deals before the stock market crash.

Payout up

UDO Holdings, drawing office and specialist reprographic supplier, is raising the final dividend from 1p to 1.2p a share, making 1.8p (1.5p) for the year, after reporting pretax profits of £3.77 million for the year ended July 31 compared with £2.71 million. Turnover rose from £20.9 million to £31 million.

Temps, page 26

Kitchen buys

Armstrong Shanks, the bathroom products subsidiary of Blue Circle Industries, has paid £5 million to Greenbrook Furniture for the kitchen furniture businesses of Wrighton and Elizabeth Ann.

Pru expands

The Prudential Corporation has bought two more estate agents bringing its national network to 615 outlets. The agents are Slocombe & Partners and Seymour Laing & Co.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1902.35 (-58.70)*
Dow Jones	1902.35 (-58.70)*
Tokyo	22418.37 (-218.84)
Hong Kong	2198.31 (+25.84)
Hang Seng	2198.31 (+25.84)
Amsterdam	202.6 (-10.7)
Frankfurt	1251.0 (-13.4)
Paris	1317.2 (-89.1)
Zurich	1446.00 (same)
London	1232.0 (-42.0)
FT-SE 100	1565.2 (-55.6)
FT-SE 250	277.9 (+16.0)
FT-SE 1000	56.47 (+1.05)
FT-SE 1000	56.47 (+1.05)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

REISE	540p (+30p)
Elect. Rentals	64p (+3p)
Jaeger	277p (+8p)
Abelco	285p (+1p)
Resident Motor	48p (+8p)
FALLS	
ICI	1011p (-22p)
Royal Insurance	375p (-23p)
Croston	48p (-2p)
Star Computer	120p (-5p)
Granada	240p (-30p)
Anglia TV	370p (-25p)
Campani	310p (-50p)
American Intl.	588p (-25p)
Shell	160p (-5p)
Ultramar	260p (-10p)
Lowes Howard	451p (-20p)
Reid	370p (-35p)
Camford Eng.	105p (-10p)
Comstock	315p (-18p)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
London Interbank 91	9.1%
3-month eligible bills	8.1%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	8.75%
Federal Funds	6.75%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.69-5.67%
30-year bonds	100-100.4%

CURRENCIES

Location	New York
\$1.7940	\$1.7940
DM2.9771	DM2.9771
SwFr2.4479	SwFr2.4479
FF710.1052	FF710.1052
Yen240.84	Yen240.84
Indec75.126	Indec75.126
Scd10.581726	Scd10.581726

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$463.50 PM \$463.50
close	\$463.50-464.00 (\$258.50-259.00)
New York	
Comex	\$462.80-463.30*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec.)	pm \$17.65bbl (\$18.07)
* Denotes latest trading price	

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£12bn wiped
from shares

Dollar hits record
lows against mark

By David Smith and Michael Clark

Share prices tumbled in London and New York as the dollar fell to record lows in Europe in the absence of new factors to reverse gloomy market sentiment.

There was strong evidence of a "flight into quality" in London as conventional gilts rose by up to three points at the long end and index-linked stocks showed gains of more than four points.

Share prices in London suffered further heavy falls as the new two-week trading account started, closing at their lowest levels since October last year.

Almost £12.3 billion (3.6 per cent) was wiped from the value of publicly-quoted companies as the FT-SE 100 index tumbled 55.6 points to 1,565.2. It has fallen 878.2 points (36 per cent) since its peak on July 16, and 487.1 (24 per cent) since October 19. The FT index of top 30 shares ended the day 42 points lower at 1,232.

Early trading on Wall Street did nothing to soothe the nerves in London. At one stage the Dow Jones industrial average was down 57.86 points at

1,901.19 as dealers waited for program trading to resume.

Money market interest rates in London fell by more than a quarter of a point to levels consistent with an early half-point cut in base rates. The three-month interbank rate ended the day at 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent.

Dealers believe the Chancellor will sanction a cut in base rates to 8.5 per cent to counter the gloom in the equity market, although there are signs that even this would fail to lift flagging spirits.

The dollar, briefly stronger before the weekend on false

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hopes of an early compromise in the Washington budget negotiations, fell steadily yesterday, dropping to new lows against the mark and other European currencies.

Few dealers had expected initiatives from the central bankers' meeting at Basle. Even so, the dollar encountered further selling when

a statement from the Basic meeting put the onus firmly on fiscal policy action.

The Basic statement made no mention of central bank intervention to support the dollar and little official action was detected in the markets.

The dollar fell by nearly two pence to DM1.695, and from ¥133.40 to ¥134.23. It hit an all-time low against the guild, with few signs of stabilizing at its lower levels.

The pound rose 1.15 cents to \$1.7940, but fell by more than a penny to just below DM2.98. The sterling index slipped by 0.1 points to 75.6.

In New York last night, the pound was quoted at \$1.7960 and the dollar at DM1.6975.

The dollar was hit by the dearth of news from Washington on the budget deficit talks, and by worries over the September US trade figures to be published on Thursday. A third set of bad figures, after deficits of \$16.5 billion in July and \$15.7 billion in August, would affect the dollar badly, dealers said.

Share dealers in London appeared to be in a state of shock last night.

Computer trading resumed

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Wall Street reacted to the return of program trading yesterday by opening lower in volatile dealing activity.

Share prices were down by more than 30 points in the first two hours, with declining issues outnumbering advancing ones by a broad margin.

Analysts said the New York Stock Exchange's decision to return to a full, unrestricted schedule of program trading when markets were still nervous was controversial.

"To allow program trading to return before we take a view as to whether the system can cope is dangerous, if only because of the psychological impact," said one dealer.

Program trading is a sophisticated form of computerized arbitrage, involving discrepancies between the prices of stock-index futures traded in Chicago and the prices of individual company shares traded on the NYSE.

A heavy volume of these trades contributed to the market crash on Black Monday. The next day the NYSE requested a voluntary ban on program trades and then imposed formal controls. Since October 20, the ban has been gradually lifted.

Economists believe controls on program trading should be continued until the numerous investigations of what caused

the market crash are completed.

"I think it is premature. It would be better to wait while on program trading to rebuild confidence in the system," said Mr Edward Yardeni of Prudential Basic Securities.

Wall Street dealers expect conditions to remain volatile in the absence of an agreement on cutting the deficit. Fears over the plunging dollar and the willingness of the large industrialized nations to continue co-ordinating their economic policies, as well as the degree to which Washington will impose regulations on the US financial system as the crash investigations continue are also destabilising factors.

G10 presses US on deficit talks

By David Smith

The central bankers of the Group of 10 countries agreed on the causes of the turbulence in financial markets at their regular monthly meeting in Switzerland yesterday, but emphasized that fiscal policy action was needed — a thinly-disguised reference to the US budget talks in Washington.

They said fiscal policy action taken by finance ministers to support exchange rate stability and reduce payments imbalances would be supported with "appropriate" monetary policies.

Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, Bundesbank president and chairman of the G10 governors, took the unusual step of releasing a press statement



Speaking out: Pöhl yesterday after the meeting at the Bank for International Settlements in Basle.

It said: "The central bank governors of the G10 countries have exchanged views on recent developments in the money, capital and exchange markets and are in agreement

both on the analysis of the present situation and on the policies that are needed to deal with it.

"In particular they expressed their satisfaction at recent measures taken to maintain the smooth functioning of the financial system and reaffirmed their commitment to that end. They stressed the importance of moves by governments of major industrialized countries to adopt fiscal policies consistent with the objectives of reducing existing payments imbalances, promoting exchange rate stability and sustaining non-inflationary growth.

"They are ready to support these objectives with appropriate monetary policies."

Royal Bank of Canada vice-chairman resigns

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Mr Geoffrey Styles has resigned as vice-chairman and a director of Royal Bank of Canada. He was responsible for the bank's move into the securities industry and had overall responsibility for Orion Royal Bank, the London merchant banking arm which pulled out of gilt-edged and Eurobond market-making last week.

RBC would not say whether Mr Styles' departure was connected with Orion's move out of market-making. Mr Robert Patterson, a senior

executive vice-president, will take over responsibility for Orion and for RBC's push into the securities industry through acquisitions.

Mr John Sanders, chairman and chief executive of Orion, said he did not believe the reshuffle at RBC would change Orion's relationship with its parent. Orion still plans to expand its British and international equity operations through Kitkat & Aiken, its London stockbroking business.

Instead of market-making

in gilts and Eurobonds, Orion intends to continue dealing in bonds but only selectively and on a client order basis.

RBC, meanwhile, is still anxious to expand its securities operation in Canada after the deregulation of Canadian financial markets. It is thought to be eyeing Wood Gundy, the Canadian securities firm, after being beaten in a bid race by First Chicago Corp. the US bank, this year. Observers believe First Chicago may be pulling out of the deal, which has not been

Music group's first year profits confound brokers' analysts

£27m surprise
from Virgin

By Carol Fergusson



Uncharacteristically pensive: Richard Branson yesterday

Richard Branson's Virgin Group confounded the stockbrokers' analysts yesterday by reporting pretax profits of £27 million ahead of the most optimistic forecasts in its first preliminary results since coming to the stock market.

Turnover jumped 48 per cent to £279 million and pretax profits from continuing businesses before exceptional items rose 45 per cent to £27.7 million.

The shares rose 5p on the news to 105p, but are still well below the 140p striking price when Virgin Group, excluding Virgin Atlantic Airways, came to the market in November 1986.

Mr Branson scotched rumours that he was about to make a major acquisition of either HMV or Thorn-EMI. "These rumours have no basis in fact," he said. "It is true that together with EMI we would make a formidable British-based music company, but we have no plans."

He also played down the significance of the departure from the Virgin board of Sir Philip Harris, the chairman of Harris Queensway, a non-executive director.

"Both Sir Phil and Mr Cob Stenham (the head of Bankers Trust's European operations) were appointed as non-exec-

utive directors for a year to see the company through the flotation," he said.

"Sir Phil has been replaced by Mr Peter Scott, the chief executive of WCRS group, and it is fairly certain that Mr Stenham will stay on for another year," he added.

Profits on the music side were held back last year by losses in the US, where operations got under way last February. Mr Branson has a three-year plan to make the US side profitable.

The company is finding that sales of records are declining in favour of compact discs while cassettes are maintaining their market share.

Meanwhile, Virgin is facing the challenge of DAT (digital audio tape), the new high quality tape recording medium. "You cannot fight new technology if the public wants it," Mr Branson said.

He is optimistic about the group's prospects. "Turnover is significantly higher than in the same period last year and we are confident that the investment of the past 12 months provides a sound foundation for long term growth. A final dividend of 1.8p is proposed, making 2.65p for the year."

Temps, page 26

Amersham
hit by fall
in dollar

By Alexandra Jackson

The profitability of Amersham International, the first company to be privatized under the Thatcher regime in 1982, will be affected by a prolonged period of dollar weakness.

Dr Stuart Burgess, the chief executive of the health care and medical research group, said yesterday: "We can only protect ourselves to a limited extent and for a limited period by using financial instruments."

"The weakening dollar effects the sterling value of translated profits from the US and it also influences our competitive position in world markets as most of our competitors are American," he said.

Although most of Amersham's products are manufactured in Britain, nearly 90 per cent of them are exported. The Americas accounted for 23 per cent of group sales last year.

Amersham reported dull interim figures, below analysts' forecasts, showing pretax profits to the end of September, 12 per cent higher at £11.7 million. A dividend of 3.2p was declared compared to 2.8p last year. Turnover rose from £69 million to £79.4 million. Post tax profits increased 17 per cent to £7.2 million.

Amersham's shares dropped sharply from 370p to 312p on the results and on continued worries about the group's currency exposure. Over the last month the shares have underperformed the market by 29 per cent.

Temps, page 26

Granada in £224m bid
for rival Visionhire

By Cliff Feltham

Granada, the high street television and video rental group, yesterday launched a £224 million takeover bid for Electronic Rentals, the company that owns one of its main rivals, Visionhire.

The sudden move surprised the City where takeover activity has been at a standstill since the stock market collapse. Mr Derek Lewis, Granada's finance director, admitted: "We made the bid because we thought the price had come back to a level which reflects the value of the business."

Granada, whose other activities include television broadcasting, motorway service stations and holidays, had quietly picked up just under 1 per cent of Electronic Rentals' shares before bidding. Yesterday, it raised the stock market to lift its stake to 14.9 per cent.

The offer is conditional on the backing of the Electronic Rentals board, which last night told shareholders to sit tight. A statement is expected today.

Mr Lewis said Granada re-

served the right to launch a hostile bid if it failed to obtain a recommendation. But he added: "We are optimistic that they will be convinced of the merits of getting together with us."

The key to the bid is likely to be the reaction of Philips, the big electronics group, which has a long-standing 22 per cent stake in Electronic Rentals — one of its biggest customers for television sets.

However, the bid could run into trouble with the Office of Fair Trading. Granada has 600 shops which, added to the 450 Visionhire outlets, virtually puts it on level pegging with Thorn EMI, the present leader. This will give the two groups about 80 per cent of the market. The OFT looks at any deal giving a company more than 25 per cent of a market.

The terms of Granada's offer — which involves a mixture of convertible preference shares and cash — places a value on Electronic Rentals of 77p, a 40 per cent jump on Friday's 55p closing price. Before the crash they were 82p. Last night the shares closed at 64p, up 9p.

Granada, which doubled the size of its rental business in 1984 by acquiring the Redifusion group, believes there are considerable savings to be made by amalgamating the two chains.

However, Mr Lewis admitted yesterday that this could mean substantial closures of shops that overlap. In the merger with Redifusion, 200 shops were closed.

The rental business has been practically static over the last few years as more customers have turned to buying. Granada and its competitors have concentrated on retailing for future growth.

The offer puts Electronic Rentals — which reported profits before tax of £18.5 million last year — on a price/earnings multiple of 20.8 times. If the deal goes through, rental and retailing will account for about half of all Granada's profits which last year were £92.4 million.

Granada's other activities include television broadcasting, motorway service stations and holidays.

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Government backs campaign to protect investors

Lloyd's goes to war over US tax

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Lloyd's of London, with the backing of the British Government, has mounted an unprecedented lobbying campaign in the United States to protect its endangered American investors who have fallen prey to Congressional tax reforms.

Lloyd's, which says 60 per cent of its business is now American-based, has hired an American law firm to lobby against a tax bill passed by the House of Representatives which may violate a double-taxation agreement between Britain and the US, officials said.

One provision of the House tax bill would change the special three-year status under which Lloyd's is taxed, thus reducing the incentive for thousands of Americans to remain as names on the market.

Mr Alan Lord, the deputy chairman and chief executive officer, visited US

Treasury officials to protest against the statute and to enlist the Reagan Administration's support in fighting it. Mr Lord said that the proposed change would inject "very considerable uncertainty" into the market's operations.

Mr Lord added that Lloyd's has \$8 billion (£4.49 billion) invested in the US, about 70 per cent of this in government securities.

The British Government has weighed in heavily in support of Lloyd's, which has operated under a longstanding agreement with the US Internal Revenue Service.

This "closing agreement" allows Lloyd's to be taxed on a three-year basis rather than a one-year basis, resulting in a deferral which some American companies claim gives the British market an unfair advantage.

The US Internal Revenue Service has

followed British procedures in taxing Lloyd's because of the unique nature of its business. Investors do not pay tax on profits until the syndicate's accounting year is closed, more than three years after it begins. No profits are received either during this period but the money builds up faster if it remains untaxed.

Sir Anthony Acland, the British Ambassador, has written to the chairman of both the House and Senate tax committees to protest at the tax provision.

According to an industry magazine, more than 3,200 American names will write \$4.1 billion of the \$18 billion in policies Lloyd's is expected to produce this year. About 10 per cent of the Lloyd's names are Americans, and their number is growing rapidly.

A British Embassy official said that the US Treasury has sided with Lloyd's in the unusual dispute, but has warned the market that it must also convince Congress.

are changing hands at 260p. Parkway shares were originally placed at 110p in July.

Harris admits defeat and sells Ultimate for £8m

By Alison Eastle

Harris Queensway, the troubled furniture retailer, yesterday sold Ultimate, its loss-making electrical retailing division, to Woolworth Holdings for a knockdown £8 million cash. The book value of the net assets sold was approximately £12 million.

Woolworth is buying 94 outlets with a total floor space of about 400,000 square feet, which it will integrate into Comet, its edge-of-town electrical retailing chain. Woolworth is acquiring 29 self-standing stores, 19 concessions in Queensway stores and 47 concessions in Debenhams. It is not buying a further 11 Queensway concessions which will be absorbed back into the furniture stores.

Ultimate made a net loss of £5.6 million on turnover of £106.7 million in the year to January 25.

Mr Anthony Shanagher, the new Harris Queensway finance director, said yesterday Ultimate had failed to reach the critical mass necessary for a chain of its type. Harris Queensway was concentrating its cash and management resources on its core businesses, he said, and electricals were seen as peripheral.

Woolworth will be acquiring between £8 million and £10 million of working capital, net of external debt of £8 million. Harris Queensway's balance sheet will be relieved of £16 million. Woolworth is



Ultimate loser: Sir Philip Harris who launched the chain

also buying Ultimate's stock at a substantial discount. The value of property in the purchase price is £5 million.

Mr Nigel Whitaker, a Woolworth director, said Ultimate could be made profitable through bringing in Comet's better range and pricing of products, its after-sales

service and its large advertising budget. There would also be head office cost savings.

Harris Queensway last month announced a sharp fall in interim pretax profits to £5.5 million compared with £20.45 million in the previous first half. The main cause was the introduction of new prod-

uct lines at the expense of traditional furniture in the Queensway stores. The group has also suffered from a board room shake-out with four directors leaving since June. Yesterday's announcement of the sale of Ultimate was left to the new directors, notably Mr Shanagher who has been finance director for less than three weeks.

Ultimate was launched by Sir Philip Harris, chairman and chief executive of Harris Queensway, in October 1984 after he failed to buy Comet. Woolworth topped his price with an eleven-hour intervention. Harris Queensway then went on to build up the chain with the acquisition in June 1985 of Rayford Supreme Holdings.

The concession arrangement with Debenhams will transfer to Woolworth.

Woolworth also announced the appointment of Mrs Mair Barnes as managing director of the Woolworth chain. Mrs Barnes was headhunted from House of Fraser two years ago to be merchandise director.

She co-ordinated the chain's complete buying operations and also headed up Woolworth's Kidstore development, the launch of which has proved a big success.

Mrs Barnes, aged 42, started in retailing as a graduate trainee with Harrods.

Appointments, page 32

Cash call cancelled at Impala

By Colin Campbell

Impala Platinum, one of South Africa's leading producers of platinum group metals, has called off its proposed R300 million (£88 million) rights issue because of uncertainty over world stock markets and platinum share prices.

Impala is, however, still going ahead with the development of a platinum mine at an estimated cost of R400 million, but said long-term funding arrangements previously announced would be deferred until stock markets had stabilized.

The Kame mine is planned to have an initial output level of 100,000 ounces of platinum a year, eventually rising to 300,000 oz a year.

The price level needed to make the mine viable was not disclosed when the project was announced last month. But the managers admitted it would have to be competitive.

Since then, however, precious metal prices have fallen and platinum shares — once market leaders in the mining sector — are out of favour.

Producer prices jump

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Industry's prices rose more sharply than expected last month, causing a jump in the 12-month rate of producer price inflation. Final retail sales figures showed a fall in September, with consumer credit still growing strongly.

But the stronger pound, together with weak oil prices, resulted in a fall in industry's raw material and fuel costs.

Manufacturing industry's output prices for home sales rose by 0.5 per cent last month, after a 0.3 per cent increase in September.

The 12-month rate of increase of output prices rose from 3.5 to 3.9 per cent.

More than half of the rise in output prices last month was accounted for by higher prices in the food, drink and tobacco industries. There were price increases last month for bread, milk, cigarettes and beer.

The input price figures — manufacturing industry's raw material and fuel costs — were regarded as encouraging, and should fall further this month.

Input prices fell by 0.4 per cent last month, after a 0.2 per cent drop in September. The 12-month rate of increase fell from 7.1 to 5.1 per cent.

Final figures showed a 0.5 per cent fall in retail sales volume to 131.8 (1980=100) last month, its second biggest on record. Sales in September were 5.9 per cent up on a year earlier.

New credit advanced in September rose by a record £32.2 billion (£2.97 billion in August). There was an increase in borrowing on bank credit cards, and individuals ran up an additional £160 million of credit-card debt, after a net repayment of £80 million in August.

In the first nine months of the year, outstanding consumer credit rose by £2.84 billion, or 14.9 per cent, to £21.9 billion.

C&F in £90m rights issue

By Lawrence Lever

The continued fall in the stock market yesterday did not deter City and Foreign Holdings, the corporate services group chaired by Lord Stevens, from announcing a £90 million four-for-one rights issue fully underwritten by Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank.

The rights issue will go towards the £200 million (£117 million) City and For-

eign is paying for Alexander Proudfoot, the international management consultancy.

The Proudfoot deal was agreed and announced in July and is effectively a reverse takeover of City and Foreign, which will be re-named Alexander Proudfoot.

Pro-forma profits before tax and interest of the combined group for the year to December 31 are expected to be

about £26 million of which £24.6 million should be attributable to Proudfoot.

The rights issue of 45 million shares is being offered as 42 new shares for every 10 held. The new shares are priced at 200p compared with a 246p price for C&F when it was suspended in July.

The underwriting terms incorporate a special facility for the sub-underwriters.

Reckitt in German buy £26m facility for MBS

By Our City Staff

Reckitt & Colman, the household products and foods group, is paying DM72.5 million (£24.2 million) for a substantial part of Kukident, the West German denture subsidiary of Richardson, which is ultimately owned by Procter & Gamble.

Richardson was required by the West German cartel office to divest much of Kukident, as its proposed acquisition of Blendax, the toothpaste man-

ufacturer, would have given it too dominant a share of the German mouthcare market.

Reckitt has been keen to expand in Europe.

It already has two West German businesses, selling firelighters and laundry products.

Kukident's gross profits, before selling and interest costs, were £9.4 million in the year to the end of June.

MBS, formerly Micro Business Systems, the revitalized microcomputer distributor, yesterday announced details of a £26 million loan and overdraft package arranged for it by Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank.

Four banks have agreed to participate in a £16 million syndicated loan to MBS and another two are providing a £10 million overdraft facility. MBS can draw down from

both facilities as it chooses.

The four banks in the syndicated loan are Banque Belge, Copenhagen Handelsbank, Dresdner Bank and Samuel Montagu. The overdraft is from Lloyds Bank and Midland Bank.

Mr David Downes, the MBS finance director, said that the package was for the company's working capital requirements which had increased due to rapid growth.

Bulls and bears and Manx cuts

Confusion reigns outside the doors of the quaint Isle of Man Bank for Savings in Douglas, where worried depositors try to get their money out, while others are equally anxious investors pleading to put their money in. The confusion — which is only allowed to reign on Thursdays and Fridays, these being the two days of the week on which this dynamic 153-year-old institution opens for business — was triggered when one of the bank's accounts clerks, who had been arrested recently on theft charges, lurid memories of the 1982 collapse of the Manx-based Savings and Investment Bank flashed through the minds of depositors as they rushed with wheelbarrows to rescue their life savings, despite official assurances that the bank was solvent and that depositors' money was as safe as the Tory vote in Farnley. But now the queues of anxious depositors have been joined in their pre-weekend vigil in Douglas's Adelphi Street by wily investors who have heard that the bank is, in fact, about to be sold and the proceeds distributed among the lucky depositors. Some of the locals spotted this as a sensible way to make money — this, presumably, being the sort of quick thinking that has made the Isle of Man such a booming offshore financial centre. "A friend of mine went down there on Friday afternoon and tried to put £1,000 in, but they are not taking any more deposits," a bemused Manx acquaintance tells me.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

It is a sailor's market

Aboy there, Sir Phil Harris. The Harris Queensway boss was yesterday unavailable to comment on the sale of HQ's Ultimate electrical shops to the rival, Woolworth-owned Comet chain — except, possibly, by ship-to-shore radio. Sir Phil, who just three months ago was promising to communicate more with the City, was, it appears, out sailing his boat, in summer climes. Even his public rela-

tions people at Streets Financial had no idea where he was, and, moreover, knew nothing of the sale. Harris Queensway has suffered a boardroom shake-out in recent months, and sinking profits. Perhaps the sale was just too upsetting to talk about. It was Woolworth, after all, which pipped him to the post in buying Comet three years ago. Ultimate had been Sir Phil's way of fighting back.

Stone-faced

"All the world's a deal, and all the men and women merely dealers" seems to be the thinking behind Wall Street, the forthcoming American film which threatens to do for lower Manhattan what Caryl

Churchill's play *Serious Money* did for the City. You will have to wait until shortly before Christmas to see what is being trumpeted as the most realistic footage yet filmed of New York's better-sketched financial world. The film has been made by one of Hollywood's currently favoured sons, Oliver Stone, the director who won an Oscar for the Vietnam movie, *Platoon*. Production began this year, when insider trading scandals were rocking Wall Street nearly as violently as the US budget deficit has over the past few weeks. So far no one outside Stone's immediate entourage has been given a foretaste of the film's message. But now Stone has dropped a vital clue, telling us that *Wall Street* "focuses on greed. All of a sudden," Stone says, "everybody needs a Porsche or a VCR or a fishing boat. And this is what fuels America — more and more greed."

Innings outing

Following England's World Cup defeat by the Australians in Calcutta last weekend, the valiant Stock Exchange Cricket Club sets off this Thursday on a two-week, seven-match tour of Singapore and Hong Kong in fighting mood — though it remains uncertain what damage the stock market crash might have inflicted on some of the branches of British brokerage houses the team was hoping to challenge. Among those who have been granted leave by their companies to pad up and escape the market's current woes are Sussex captain Paul Parker, Middlesex opening batsman Andrew Miller and former Kent and Glamorgan man Charles Rowe. Fortunately for the 20-man squad, the club had already topped the City for £20,000 in the summer, and the tour will be able to transform their hair colour in five minutes with a new product called *Just For Men*, from the makers of *Gracia 2000*. Researchers say the US President is giving them the encouragement to dye their locks. Presumably they mean President Kennedy.

Joe Joseph

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

The City hopes tourists will finance the tunnel

The atmosphere surrounding Euro-tunnel is becoming steamy, less than a week before the issue is due to be formally launched.

In theory, the current ups and downs of the stock market should barely affect a project that is not even due to start operations until 1993, or reach high dividend payments until the next century. This is the antithesis of BP.

For the City institutions now facing a confident selling operation to underwrite the issue, the main question is whether the British investing public is likely to back any company seeking their savings at this fraught time. If the issue is underwritten, the tunnel will go ahead and the issue will probably be a success. If it is not, private investors are not likely to leap in where the professionals refuse to tread.

There has always been confusion about how the issue was to be marketed, partly because Eurotunnel and its advisers have kept their options open. This was understandable in the wake of problems with the earlier "equity 2" issue to institutions, which succeeded in London only when the Bank of England blatantly twisted City arms. It has turned out to be wise.

When the stock market was buoyant, a big television campaign for a £300 million London issue looked like overkill. The floating stag money seemed likely to be attracted by the hefty opening premium indicated by Warburg Securities' clever analysis of the company as a share. They saw it being valued like a long lease property development earning rents when built, with the share price until 1993 reflecting the present discounted value of the tunnel on completion.

The target long-term private investor was therefore the middle-aged high earner looking for capital gains now and income later. The addition of separable warrants reflected this targeting of the "thinking investor." It was not clear where the equivalent of Sid came in. As the affluent now count the losses on their investments, share options and fancy Knightsbridge houses, Sid has come into his own.

The main private target now is the successor of all those people who used to swell the share register of European Ferries, mainly for the sake of cross-Channel travel concessions to shareholders. These potential investors have not melted away, according to Euro-tunnel's market research. Instead of sophisticated calculations of required rates of return, patterns of inflation and risk discount rates, the arithmetic has therefore shifted to simpler sums.

How much of the likely purchase price of 350p can be clawed back in family car trips to the Continent? Those who invest more than £5,000 for the maximum concessions might get all

their money back by taking five round trips a year up to the year 2042. More realistically, the perks represent a substantial additional yield for young people.

For sophisticated fund managers the initial base case for potential revenue from the tunnel is the important thing. This was drawn up with caution to secure bank finance and still looks quite robust. Modest assumptions about economic growth and newly created traffic in the 1990s now look realistic, but not over-optimistic.

Sophisticated valuation analyses do not stand up to such scrutiny, because they depend on fast-moving interest rates, required rates of return equities and on the path of inflation. Such niceties should not worry big funds looking to put relatively small sums into a long-term venture with self-evidently high potential returns.

Assessing the damage

Soothing noises out of Basle from the monthly meeting of central bankers did little yesterday to prop up the dollar. After quiet trading for most of the day, nerves began to crack again in the late afternoon in London on continued lack of progress in agreeing a cut in the US budget deficit. By the close the dollar was another 1.75 pence below Friday's close at DM1.6585.

The bankers, in their bankerly way, expressed themselves "in agreement both on their analysis of the present situation and on the policies that are needed to deal with it." But they stressed the importance of fiscal moves to counteract trade imbalances and promote exchange rate stability — a scarcely veiled reference to the need to tackle the US budget deficit.

How much difference the radically changed economic landscape will really make to the economy is something over which good men can differ. Last week the Treasury suggested that the economy might grow by 0.5 per cent less next year as a result of the fall in share prices.

Yesterday the latest forecast from the Item Club, which also uses the Treasury's economic model, concluded that growth would slow by very little as a result solely of the stock market crash. Because inflation and interest rates would be lower, consumer spending might actually rise next year in spite of the likely squeeze on spending arising from the need to replace depleted savings.

The forecast, which was the first to be sponsored by Ernst & Whinney, the accountant, shows that a 30 per cent fall in share prices could leave inflation about 1.25 per cent lower than it would otherwise have been — but by 1989 the current account could be £3 billion worse than the present £2.5 billion deficit.



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Twenty Questions.

1.

What is Eurotunnel?

2.

Who'll be running it?

3.

How's it being built?

4.

Who'll use it?

5.

When will it open?

6.

What are the travel advantages?

7.

How much will it cost?

8.

How will it earn its revenues?

9.

When is the share offer?

10.

What's the minimum investment?

11.

How can I buy shares?

12.

Any travel privileges?

13.

What will the shares cost?

14.

What's the dividend policy?

15.

How much traffic is expected?

16.

If it's a rail tunnel, what about my car?

17.

What about freight?

18.

How far has construction got?

19.

How long will it take to Paris and Brussels?

20.

How can I find out more?

Answered.

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are public interest. Whether it is in the best
payments be expected. Hopefully there is some
are changing hands at 260p. Parkway shares were orig-
inally placed at 110p in July.

NUMBER 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Dow falls lower in light trading

Dollar hits shares

THE U. S. AIR FORCE

—

Guinness acts to arrest £3m thefts by 'kegnappers'

By Colin Narborough

Guinness has launched a campaign to end "kegnapping" — the theft of empty beer barrels which is costing the company, Britain's biggest brewer, millions of pounds.

The thieves, who sell the high-pressure kegs to smelters, have been encouraged by a substantial rise in aluminium scrap prices caused by strong demand from industry.

Guinness puts its own losses from keg theft at between £3 million and £4 million last year. In the industry as a whole, the figure was an estimated £20 million from 40,000 missing barrels.

Scrap merchants are now paying between £25 and £30 for kegs which are frequently left in pub car parks, or even in the street, and, therefore, easily stolen.

Mr Ken Bruce, head of public relations at Guinness Brewing, the drinks group's beer division, says each empty keg lost costs the brewer about £80-£90, roughly the same as

the value of its contents when full.

The campaign, started last month with the blessing of the Brewers' Society, has so far been directed at the brewing trade, scrap merchants and the police, but Guinness is in the process of distributing 50,000 posters to pubs in order to reach a wider audience.

The basic plan is to educate more people about the problem, while tightening up on company procedures for keeping check on kegs in circulation.

Scrap merchants are under no legal obligation to report the delivery of empty kegs to their yards, but Guinness believes the bulk of keg smelting is probably handled by a handful of dishonest dealers.

Mr Bruce dismisses the idea that Guinness kegs are possibly being taken by other beer makers, pointing out that the design is unique to the company so the kegs are effectively unusable by other firms.

Profits boosted at Norsk Hydro

Oslo (Reuters) — Norsk Hydro, Norway's biggest diversified corporation, yesterday reported net profits of 326 million kroner (£28 million) for the third quarter of this year against Kr33 million last year, and almost tripled net profits for the first nine months of the year.

Hydro said net profits for the first nine months were Kr1.2 billion against Kr488 million in the same period last year. But the company said it could make no profit forecast for 1987 because of uncertainty in foreign exchange markets.

Improved results had been expected after better performance in Hydro's petrochemical and light metals divisions. Conditions in these areas have improved since last year, when Hydro lost Kr324

million for the year — its first loss since 1944.

Hydro said: "The favourable market conditions for aluminium and petrochemicals are expected to last through the fourth quarter."

Turnover in the third quarter was Kr13.5 billion, little changed from 1986.

The third-quarter results had been held over from last month because Hydro, 51 per cent state-owned, had to prepare a balance sheet for the US Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with a planned rights issue.

Hydro is expected to announce the terms and date of the Kr3.5 billion issue, planned for November 27, today. It has said it may postpone the offer, the largest ever in Scandinavia, because of the stock markets crash.

Tokyo expected to receive Y4,875bn from NTT issue

From Darryl Gibson, Tokyo

The Japanese Ministry of Finance has set the issue price for a new offering of 1.95 million shares of government-held stock in Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp at Y2.25 million each.

The price, yesterday's closing price on the Tokyo Stock Exchange — Y2.64 million, down Y80,000 from Saturday — less 3.5 per cent, is considerably lower than it would have been without the world stock markets' crash, but the Japanese government still stands to reap Y4,875 billion from the sale today, tomorrow and Thursday.

NTT was selling for Y2.95 million a share on October 16, the last day before Tokyo prices began to plummet.

Last year, the first 1.95 million-share tranche of NTT shares offered by the government sold for about Y1.1 million a share and buyers, chosen by lottery, were limited to one share each.

This time, the full offering was open for public subscription from October 9 and it was fully subscribed almost from the moment securities firms were allowed to take offers.

However, since the "Black Tuesday" drop of more than Y3,800 in the 225-stock Nikkei average on October 20, many prospective buyers have had second thoughts about the issue, securities industry sources said. But it

still appears that all the shares will be subscribed.

Originally, securities companies were asked by the finance ministry to limit offers from institutional investors to give as many individuals as possible a chance of owning the new shares.

However, if many have pulled back because of fears of declining share prices, institutions may turn out to be the big winners from the new issue.

Much of the proceeds from the government sale will go toward paying for a supplementary budget, heavy on public works and housing expenditures, prepared by the Japanese government to stimulate consumer and corporate demand at home. A big portion will also be used to pay long-term government debt, ministry officials said.

Japanese law requires at least part of the cash raised from privatizations to go toward debt reduction, they said.

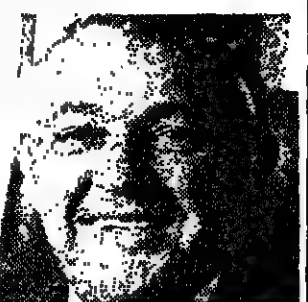
In addition, about Y60 billion is expected to be paid to Japanese and foreign securities firms, the lion's share to domestic companies, as commissions for the massive offering.

Foreign investors are barred from participating in the offering directly, but many are believed to own shares through Japanese proxies.

Mystery deepens over Bond's stake in Allied

Bond Corporation, headed by Mr Alan Bond, the Australian businessman, declined to confirm that it planned to, or had, raised its stake in Allied-Lyons, to 5 per cent.

A Bond spokesman said his company kept the Allied-Lyons board informed at all times of its holding, but added: "It's not in the company's interest to announce the extent of the increased shareholding."



Alan Bond: no confirmation

Profit leaps to £1.14m at Stoddard Holdings

Stoddard Holdings, the Scottish carpet manufacturer, yesterday delivered excellent news of current trading and forecast a strong performance for the year as a whole despite a near halving of the company's shares since July.

Half-time profits climbed from £396,000 to £1.14 million on sales £1.4 million lower at £16 million.

Mr Gordon Hay, the chairman, said that all companies

in the group contributed to the improvement in earnings.

The retail and export divisions both performed well and the contract carpet business was satisfactory.

Despite significant capital investment, borrowings fell 40 per cent to £1.3 million, cutting gearing to just 17 per cent. Shareholders are to receive an interim dividend of 0.5p per share. Last year there was no interim payout.

BUSINESS SUMMARY

Futura half-time loss grows to £102,000

Futura Holdings, the footwear manufacturer and distributor, yesterday announced increased half-year losses, and warned of a decline in its turnover and trading profit for the full year. Losses before tax for the 28 weeks to July 7 1987 were £102,000, compared with £65,000, on the same level of sales to outside customers. The increased losses included an exceptional debit of £17,000 relating to the settlement of a legal dispute. Apart from this, the company blames the increase in half-year losses on "some prolonged short-time working in 1987." The company is maintaining the interim dividend of 2.5p a share.

£4.4m profit for Hartwell

Hartwell, the vehicle distributor to heating services group, increased its pretax profits from £2.5 million to £4.4 million in the first six months of this year. The company's sales rose from £137 million to £164 million, and shares went 1p better, to 99p. Hartwell declared an interim dividend of 0.75p, compared with 0.66p last time.

Welpac jumps 134%

Pretax profits at Welpac, the USM hardware wholesaler, bounded ahead by 134 per cent during the first half of the year to £404,000. Sales were 77 per cent higher at £4.5 million. Mr Gerald Lavender, the chairman, said business rose sharply after the hurricane. He is confident of a continued improvement in turnover and profit in the second half.

Blenheim figures soar

Blenheim Exhibitions Group, the exhibition organizer quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, yesterday revealed a pretax profit of £1.43 million in the year to the end of August, against £502,000 the previous year. Turnover rose 74 per cent, to £4.55 million. Blenheim showed strong organic growth, with its original businesses making £1 million pretax.

The company has made five acquisitions since coming to the market in October of last year. The latest was exhibition organizer PEL, acquired for up to £6.2 million last month. Blenheim is now Britain's leading exhibition organizer. The final dividend was 2.95p, making a total of 4p.

ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
Abbey 888	Coca 1,191	Land Sec 1,887	Rowntree 185
Adia-Lyons 2,155	CU 1,446	Laporte 127	Royal Bank 108
Amsted 1,437	Coca Gold 449	Lagard 228	Royal Ind 287
ASDA 1,812	Cookson 518	Lloyds 555	Saatchi 802
AB Foods 138	Courtside 979	Loverio 1,028	Sainsbury 1,999
Anglo 1,911	Dagmar 149	Lucas 585	Scott & N 185
B&A 1,888	Dia 741	Magnet 189	Seas 2,205
BET 1,893	Dixons 1,891	M&S 2,844	Sedgwick 702
BTR 3,135	ECC 253	Maxwell Com 458	Shell 8,066
BAT 2,018	Enterprise 1,306	M&P 878	Smith & N 1,830
Barclays 925	Ferranti 630	Ministat 383	STC 1,032
Bell 471	Glen 252	Mitland 824	Stan Chart 478
Beecham 2,465	Ham Acc 352	Northwest 2,945	Stonewell 483
Bellco 135	GE 287	Nest 2,303	Sun Alliance 483
BICC 32	Glen 931	Nin Food 471	T & N 217
Bell Arrow 1,885	Globe 30,853	P&O 1,353	Tarmac 2,595
Bell Canada 1,891	Grain 1,891	Pearl 89	Tate & Lyle 77
BDO 264	Grand Met 2,769	Pearson 194	TBS 2,833
BDOs 2,897	GUS A 186	Pickington 1,847	Tesco 3,422
BPE 540	Ham 353	Plumley 2,054	Thorn EMI 2,572
Bry Aero 2,069	GKN 273	Prudential 470	Travellers 1,579
Bry Airways 3,768	Guinness 388	Rical 3,738	THF 2,518
Bry Comm 408	Hamm A 347	Ric Hovis 1,358	Ultramar 1,543
Bry Gas 10,882	Hanson 6,047	Rit 1,072	Unigate 356
Bry Petrol 11,471	Hawker 374	R&C 330	Unilever 1,306
Bry Telecom 5,453	Hawley 953	Redland 534	United Sil 267
Brital 5,458	Midland 1,238	Reed 1,500	Unilever News 267
Britol 5,451	Mid 523	Reckitt 745	Wellcome 354
Burnish 346	KCI 1,690	RIMAC 335	Whitbread 265
Burns 2,044	Jaguar 1,659	RITZ 1,743	Wills Fab 182
C&W 2,206	Lesmo 431	R-Royce 4,058	Woolworth 1,133
	Ludlow 1,588	Rotham B 197	Equities page 28

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings November 2
Last Dealings November 13
Last Dealings November 13
For Settlement February 15
Call options were taken out on: S/1/NT J Friday, Seers, Tesco, C&I, W. Williams, BSI, Coates, Alcoa, Ceratone, Control Secs, London Int, TSL, B&S, Davis, Eastman, Dowry Group, Ferntand, Amal, Financial, Blacks Leisure, Jaguar, Ferranti, Rolls-Royce, Ashby Inds., Dale Electric, Windsor Secs., Readout Int., Cresta, Renshaw.

RECENT ISSUES

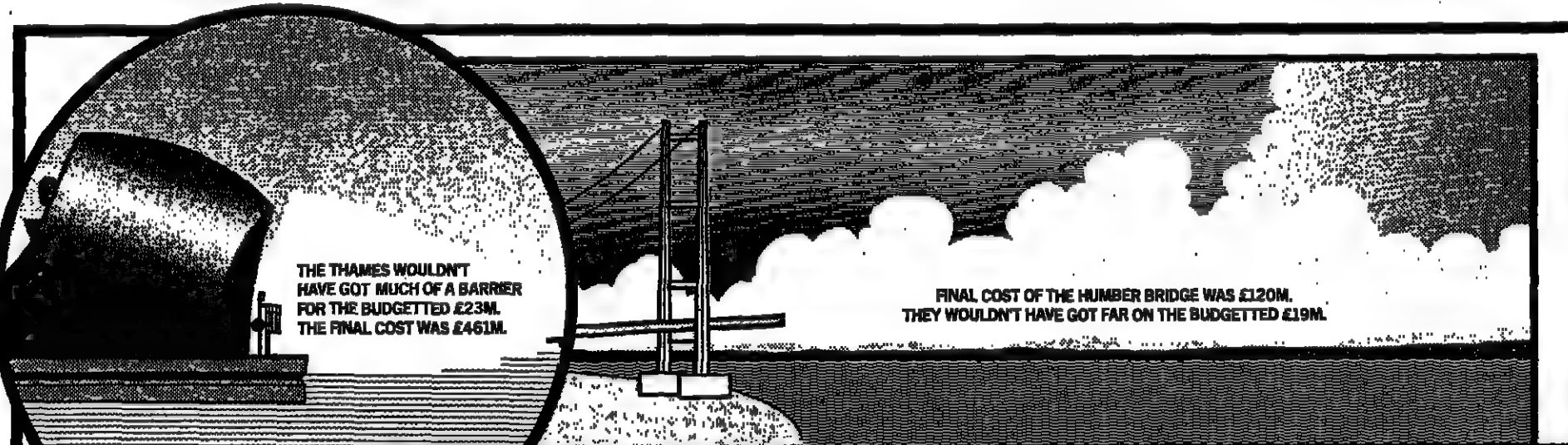
EQUITIES	Whatman Secs 23	Zellers Ltd 132-1
Alba 91		
Amor Plastic (81p) 155		
Anglo Leasing 78		
Barmer Homes (105p) 75-3		
Brit Pat P/P 17-3		
Burns Mining (100p) 102		
Cauldon 102		
Chartsearch 100-10		
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Explains 78-10		
Fairway Ltd 78-10		
SEA Int (80p) 78-10		
Kingston Oil (100p) 155-10		
Kinobis Knockers 72-1		
Lloyd Thompson (170p) 110-11		
Mercat Group 195		
Power Corp 110-11		
Record (85p) 170-7		
Rolls-Royce (170p) 100-10		
Ross Consumer (105p) 143-9		
Rural Plan 68		
Sec Archives 118-3		
Shelbury (180p) 118-3		
Shelbury (250p) 118-3		
Tabular Estab 118-3		
URS Int 118-3		
USDC Int 118-3		

THIRD MARKET

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Dir
455	185	Alcatel	210	240	
56	18	Abn Am Pst	25	25	
150	110	Alcatel Int	124	134	
8	8	Amers	37	37	
111	55	Amstelm Nw	65	70	
285	110	Broadcom	70	70	
110	40	Camstar	75	75	
103	45	Catalyst	54	54	
203	130	Chelton Int	145	145	
110	40	Chemex Int	35	35	
129	100	Comac	85	85	
101	50	Conrad Int	80	80	
229	145	Crown Ene	145	155	
68	12	Egmont	12	12	
188	70	Fin E Res	65	65	
110	70	Finer (J)	65	65	
53	25	Fontaine	25	25	
73	48	Korpe (P)	50	50	
101	50	Leung Int	50	50	
55	35	Lyc Tech	35	35	
180	95	Madras	95	95	
80	30	Fin Hlgs	27	27	
126	85	Saxon	85	85	
37	42	Thane Hlgs	42	42	
715	140	UPL	135	145	
140	100	Unit Group	112	122	

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.00%
Adam & Company	9.50%
BCCI	9.00%
Consolidated Crds	9.50%
Co-operative Bank	9.00%
C. Hoare & Co	9.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	9.00%
Lloyds Bank	9.00%
Nat Westminster	9.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.00%
TSB	9.00%
Clubank NA	9.50%



THE THAMES WOULDN'T HAVE GOT MUCH OF A BARRIER FOR THE BUDGETTED £23M. THE FINAL COST WAS £461M.

FINAL COST OF THE HUBBER BRIDGE WAS £120M. THEY WOULDN'T HAVE GOT FAR ON THE BUDGETTED £19M.

IS THE EUROTUNNEL CONSTRUCTION BUDGET JUST ANOTHER GUESTIMATE?

If previous construction projects are anything to go by, it would appear so. The examples above are not mere exceptions to the rule, either.

The construction today of a conventional power station, for instance, runs on average 19% over budget and is anything from three to six years late.

More relevantly, take the second Dartford tunnel beneath the Thames.

It was built only 200 yards from the original, through known geological conditions, using proven technology.

Yet it was four years late and at £45 million, 200% over budget.

In short, the history of large scale construction projects is littered with miscalculations, in both cost and time.

In this light, the projected figure of £5 billion to build Eurotunnel has to be treated sceptically.

So too, do the consortium's projected figures for passenger traffic.

At almost twice the levels forecast in two Government sponsored studies, we believe they are being wildly optimistic about the number of people the tunnel will carry.

And greatly underestimating the response of the ferry operators and ports.

At this point we ought to declare

our interest. We are against a bailed-out, subsidised, ailing tunnel, that would unfairly undermine the ferry business.

And in this, we have common ground with every private shareholder, small or large.

To this end, we have prepared a thorough examination of the facts, highlighting what we believe to be crucial weaknesses in the tunnel's financial case.

This booklet is available to any interested party by sending off the coupon.

It goes into far more detail than is possible in this advertisement and is, we believe, essential reading for anyone who is thinking about buying shares in Eurotunnel.

And if you're at all unsure about the value of reading it, perhaps we can leave you with this thought.

A cost overrun for Eurotunnel could mean that investors won't see any return at all.

For a copy of our booklet, write to Flexilink, 1 Deans Yard, London SW1P 3NR.

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Great Western Resources plans £35m rights issue

Great Western Resources is proposing a rights issue of £35 million 6 per cent convertible unsecured loan notes 2003 at par to raise £35 million before expenses. An irrevocable undertaking has been received in respect of entitlements amounting to £22,941,145 nominal of the notes and the balance has been underwritten. The board plans to convert each series A into 0.615 class B and each series B into 0.568 class B. The rights terms are £56 of loan notes for every 100 common shares held; £23,972 of notes for every 100 series A and £22,127 of notes for every 100 series B.

Belgravia deal

Lynston Property & Reversionary has acquired Midhurst Investments from Wereldhave for just over £8.5 million which will be financed from the company's own resources. Midhurst's assets comprise a long leasehold interest (114 years unexpired) in Ebury Gate and Belgrave Court, two buildings on the corner of Lower Belgrave Street and Ebury Street, London SW1.

Interim resumed

Health Care Services is to pay an interim dividend of 0.3p (nil) for the half year to September 30. With figures in £000s, turnover 6,418 (4,643), gross profit 1,443 (1,113), pretax profit 468 (311), tax 187 (109). Earnings per share 2.2p (1.7p).

Borneo ahead

The interim dividend at British Borneo Petroleum Syndicate for the half year to September 30 is to be raised to 7.5p from 7p. Distributable profits were

£899,372 (£626,289) and earnings per share 19.9p (13.9p).

Sutcliffe issue

Sutcliffe, Speakman is to issue 1 million new ordinary shares at 25p each to be placed with Elders Resources of Australia to realize approximately US\$3 million (£1.685 million) following an agreement to acquire Barneby-Cheney from CVI for US\$3 million in cash. It also proposes to issue to Elders 300,000 ordinary shares for cash at 180p each. Following the proposed share issues, Elders would own 1.3 million ordinary shares (9 per cent).

Royal Trust rise

Gross revenue of the Royal Trust Government Securities Fund in the year to August 31 was £5,886,206 (£5,127,397). Net revenue after all charges was £5,621,377 (£4,871,908). £5,360,073 (£4,893,975) was absorbed by a total recommended dividend of 10p (10p), on income shares net equalization £77,487 (£56,239), net revenue cost of distribution and redemption £5,282,586 (£4,837,736). Net asset value 65.88p (73.77p).

Sutherland buy

Sutherland Holdings is acquiring PA Manufacturers which was incorporated on May 20 and established to purchase

Baron Meats from Northern Foods and some assets of Millstore from Park Foods Group. Both of these transactions were completed on November 3. The consideration will be satisfied upon completion by the issue of 582,627 new shares and up to a further 12,000,000 new shares at 70p depending on profits.

Atlantic falls

Atlantic Resources, during the six months ended June 30, showed a pretax loss of £458,000 (£388,600) against a loss of £181,000 last year. Tax was £194,000 (£1200,000) and the loss per share was 0.4p (0.3p).

Catalyst expands

Catalyst Communications has agreed to acquire Chris Parry Promotions, for an initial consideration of £666,666 consisting of £100,000 cash and the issue to the vendors of 730,986 new ordinary shares at 77.4p per share. Additional payments may become due to the vendors dependent upon certain profit targets being met.

Gesteiner sale

Gesteiner has agreed to sell its paper mill, JA Weir, to OVS Investment Corporation of Australia for a minimum of £11.2 million.

APPOINTMENTS

Woolworth names new chief

Woolworth: Mrs Mair Barnes has been made managing director.

Association of British Chambers of Commerce (ABCC): Sir James Ackers becomes president and Mr Andrew Lansley director of home affairs.

BPCC Printers: Mr Ian Steel is named operations director.

Dalepak Foods: Mr Christopher Ivory is named chief executive from January 4.

Egerton Trust: Mr Jay Roseware has been made operations director of Beaumont Health Care and Mr Barrie Davies finance director and company secretary of Barnsdale Properties.

Hughes Tool Company: Mr Dale Boyer becomes president.

T Cowie: Lord Elliott of Morpeth has been made a non-executive director.

Lex Retail Group: Mr David Beak becomes managing director from January 1.

Albert Fisher: Mr Richard



Mrs Mair Barnes: Woolworth chief

Porterfield is named chief executive of UK and European operations.

Munton Brothers: Mr Richard Beames becomes non-executive chairman and Mr Stuart Hollander deputy chairman. Mr Jimmy Gluck joins the board as a non-executive director.

NHM Financial Institutions: Mr Philip Seaman, Mr Tony Driver and Mr Norman



Sir James Ackers: president of the ABCC

Taylor join the board.

Higgs and Hill: Mr David Hill is named chairman and a director of Higgs and Hill Construction Holdings. Mr Peter Chavasse becomes managing director of Higgs and Hill Overseas.

Thorn Security: Mr John Lawrence is made chief executive.

Burson-Marsteller: Miss Tish Andrewartha joins the

board and Mr Piers Haxton becomes an associate director.

Post Office: Mr Nick Nelson joins the board and is made managing director of the parcels division.

Barclays: Sir Michael Franklin becomes a director of Barclays Bank and Barclays PLC.

CCA Galleries: Mr Laurie Todd has been named finance director.

Fitzpatrick & Son (Contractors): Mr Tim Maddison becomes managing director and Mr John Davies contracts director, both from January 1.

Dobson Park Industries: Mr Brian Kennedy has been appointed deputy managing director of Gullick Dobson.

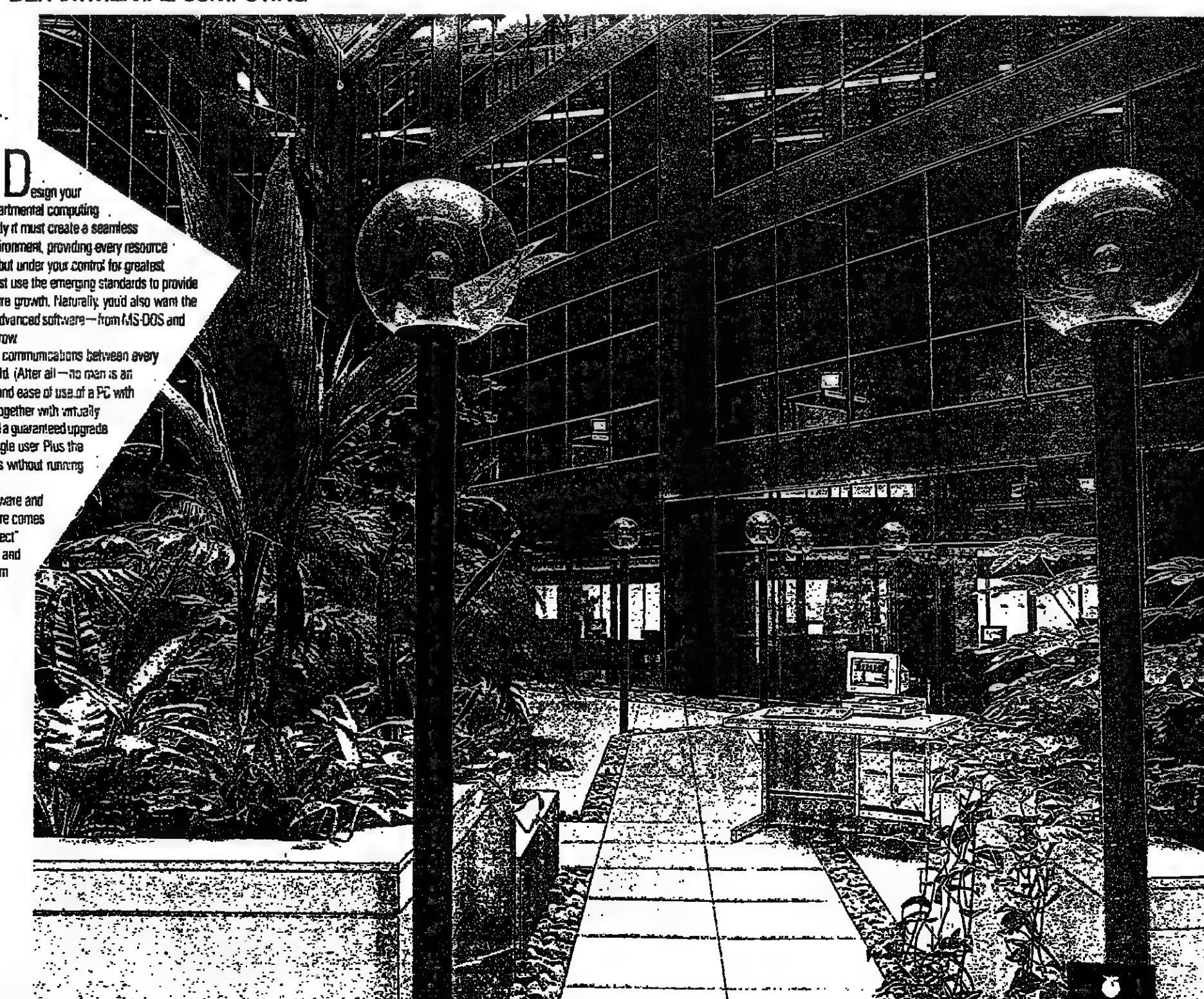
Westinghouse-Airship Industries: Rear Admiral Edward Hogan becomes president.

Interactive Information Systems: Mr Peter Brabazon joins the board.

British Steel Corporation: Mr Brian Moffat joins the board.

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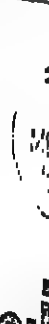
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* Estimated dead carcass weight.

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Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Now you can use IBM's OS-2

Putting an end to months of speculation, IBM is to start delivering the first release of its OS-2, the next generation of its personal computer operating system, in the US in December and a month later in Britain and the rest of Europe, a few months ahead of schedule.

The basic version of OS-2 will cost £240; an extended edition, including database and communications managers, will be available from August for £573.

Developed by IBM and Microsoft, OS-2 will let customers take full advantage of the more powerful microprocessors in the latest personal computers.

Users will be able to run multiple concurrent applications, as well as gain access to larger amounts of memory.

Dreams may come true

OS-2 can address 16 megabytes of memory, or more than 25 times the 640 kilobytes accessible by the current operating system, MS-DOS.

IBM said that OS-2 would work on nearly all personal computers based on Intel's 286 and 386 microprocessors.

Most software developers agree that OS-2 will enable them to develop new types of application programs.

Philippe Kahn, chairman and chief executive of Borland International, said: "OS-2 represents an opportunity for all of us to build the software we've been dreaming of for all these years."

William Lowe, a vice-president of IBM, said that he and William Gates, chairman of Microsoft, thought it would take OS-2 from 18 months to three years to become the dominant operating system. Mr Gates also said that Microsoft's goal is to introduce a more powerful system in 1989 to take full advantage of the 386 chip.

If that system uses essentially the same commands as OS-2, said Richard Shaffer, editor of the *Technology Partners Computer Letter*, "OS-2 should be around for a long time."

Competition grows for high-tech jobs

The opening in Amsterdam last week of a European office for the fast-growing US multi-processor computer manufacturer Sequent highlighted the desperate competition for staff among high-technology companies — particularly American and Japanese firms — which are now moving to Europe.

THE WEEK

From Geoff Wheelwright in Amsterdam

The company wants to hire two or three new sales and research/development people each month, but has already found it a challenge to get and keep the right staff. Liz Palczski, who handles personnel for the company, explained that competition is so fierce among these companies that even when she signs people up with a firm contract, they can still be

wooded back to their existing employer — or even another company while working out notice periods.

The problem is particularly acute with companies like Sequent, because they are at the higher end of the microprocessor-based market, which needs people who can confidently sell products costing between £25,000 and £500,000.

In addition, many of the people who would fit this bill are already working for other companies and, so the argument goes, there is no alternative but to poach. Miss Palczski said: "Hiring the right people is the single biggest restriction on our growth. We have a forecast for our revenues and if we hire the right salesperson we could add £500,000 to our sales figures for the year. There is an enormous risk in hiring the wrong person, so we don't wait for people to come to us because we believe the best people



aren't even thinking about moving jobs."

According to Sequent's founder, Casey Powell, it is also important that the company hires local people — both to fulfil the terms of the

company's funding agreement with its Dutch government and capital backers, and also to ensure that the people who work with the firm know the local market. He said: "Competition for people in this

business is critical. We always have problems finding good people."

Despite these difficulties, the company still hopes to soon open a research-and-development facility in Europe, as well as providing 50 jobs, including several in the UK.

While Sequent is busy looking for staff, nine of Europe's leading airlines have been gathering together computer staff in Amsterdam. More than 100 IBM experts have been seconded by the Galileo project which provides the umbrella for the consortium that is putting together a new computerized airline reservation system. Within twelve months the venture will employ some 370 people.

Over the next few years Galileo will require some massive programming expertise and will be one of the world's first such systems to be based around personal computers — in this case IBM Personal System/2 machines, instead of more simple terminals on the desks of its users.

New outlook for the DP managers

JOBSCENE

By Eddie Coulter

Many data processing managers could face a bleak future unless, that is, they are among the chosen few of 50 or so in Britain with boardroom prospects — as they are coming under increasing pressure from executive management to perform in a manner that is generally beyond them.

In time, argue some recruitment consultants, many of them will be retired early, overtaken by younger, brighter, or management and business-orientated people or simply given the push in favour of a replacement from another company who, at least to start with, will become the executive management's new blue-eyed boy — until he too fails to impress his superiors.

But it is not only information technology and DP managers who need to worry, according to Anthony Spurr, manager of the Executive Recruitment Division at BIS Applied Systems.

Accountants too might not rise to the boardroom heights — especially if the DP manager is one of the chosen few. In this case it is likely the accountant will be the one to report to the computer man and not, as in the past, the other way round.

In recent years boardroom management has become increasingly aware of the powerful effect of computing systems in controlling many a company's operations and accountability has become just one of the many areas in which computer power holds sway.

Companies see their competitors, applying information technology to gain business advantage and according to Mr Spurr they want the same.

New DP managers — often with a different job title — get head-hunted and brought into transform a company's information technology function. Often such people do not survive for long.

"The life-cycle of the conventional data processing

From general to corporal

manager," said Mr Spurr, "is down to about three and a half years before he is found out. In the first year he is regarded as a god — a general brought in to solve problems and lead the new battle. Soon he is firefighting and by the second year he is being seen merely as a captain — someone to be ordered about."

"By the third year he is being treated like a corporal while a new general is being sought."

"The emphasis now must be for the head of IT or information management to be appointed to the board so that he can form a one hundred per cent effective role in determining the total information management requirements and plan, and implement, a subordinate and totally effective information-technology strategy."

"In our experience we are becoming more aware that companies are adopting this role for the head of IT. They have come to recognize that the days of the data processing manager taking orders at second and third hand from the boardroom, is not an effective way to use the most important tool that has become available to company management."



Anthony Spurr: Talking about the life-cycle of the conventional DP manager

"Those companies which are successfully utilizing information technology are those which have reconsidered the position of the head of IT and raise the appointment to full board level."

Certainly this trend has become noticeable in the last few years. Among leading British companies to adopt this approach are: British Airways, Midland Bank and Woolworth.

However, at the moment there are perhaps only 50 IT managers in Britain capable of performing at board level, Mr Spurr said. In time there will be more.

Typically, he said, they will be graduates in a numerate discipline with perhaps a second degree such as an MBA but definitely not a PhD.

They will have trained in business as well as computing and communications and will be decision makers — true high-flyers who are natural thinkers and with the capability of conceptualizing.

With such people controlling far wider information and management issues than use finance, accountants may well be relegated to a subordinate position reporting to the information director, believes Tony Spurr, for these days computing controls most of the finance.

Mr Spurr added: "The days of conventional data processing are well and truly over, and the hurdle that now has to be surmounted by many organizations is the move into technology-assisted information management, which is not subordinate to the technology, but subordinate to the wishes and business objectives of the boardroom and senior management in the organization."

Ada seems set for success but she is difficult to talk to

By Darrell Ince

Ada is one of the most important programming languages to emerge over the last decade. However, some disturbing evidence about the skills needed to program in Ada have recently emerged from research projects in the United States and could herald problems for people wishing to become programmers in the language.

There is little doubt that Ada has a very bright future — it is the programming language adopted by the American defence department as the main medium for developing real time systems.

This fact alone ensures the success of the language and a whole host of jobs for those working with it since the department is one of the largest software contractors in the world. The vast majority of British defence systems will also be programmed in Ada.

The importance of the language lies in the fact that it is not just a programming language but also contains facilities for designing and specifying software.

Many of the faults found in software systems in the past — that have often led to massive project over-runs and, in some cases, to project cancellation — can be blamed on poor design and specification.

In a study of programmer performance at the University of Maryland, Professor Victor Basili, and a number of colleagues, investigated the quality of programs written by software staff who already had considerable experience using other programming languages.

What Professor Basili and his colleagues discovered was that many of the programs that were developed were poorly designed and that such programs contained errors which would only be found

late in a project, when only expensive re-working would eradicate them.

Their conclusion was that it was not good enough to re-train existing programmers in Ada. In order to take advantage of the language what was required was a relatively extensive course of education in modern software engineering concepts.

These disturbing results have a dual impact. First, there will be a large number of programmers currently working with old-fashioned languages such as Coral and RTL/2 who will need to be trained in Ada.

There will certainly be a massive increase in demand for Ada staff in the next five years.

● The author is Professor of Computer Science at the Open University

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■ Electron & BBC Micro User Show, Friday to Sunday, New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London (061-456 8835)

■ Image Processing and Systems Exhibition, Saturday to Monday, Kensington Exhibition Centre, London (0204 515226)

■ Computers in the City, November 17-19, Barbican, London

■ Compec, November 17-20, Olympia, London (01-891 5051)

■ Which Computer, January 19-22, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01-891 5051)

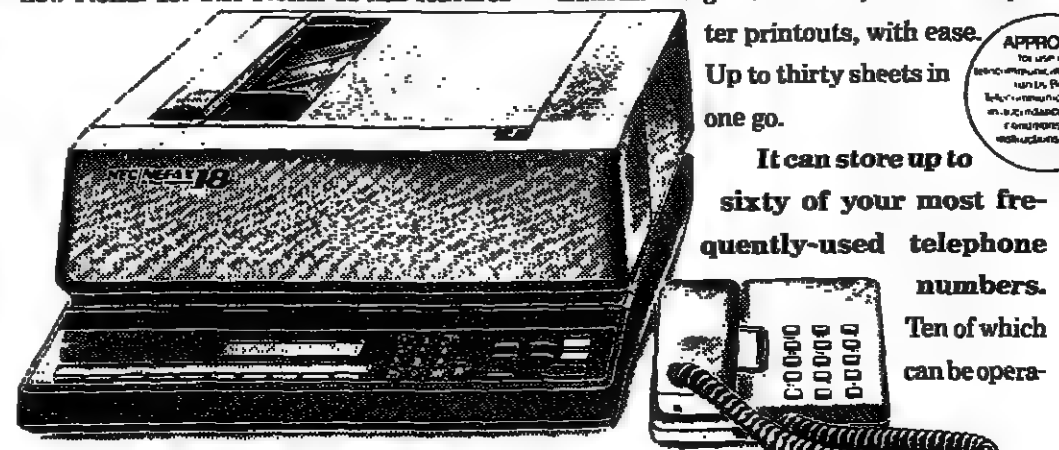
■ Office Update, January 19-22, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01-891 5051)

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

Success for two young men with an idea

By Ann Kent

A year after launching his computer-hardware business, Adrian Lincoln decided it was safe to have a family. After all, he reasoned, the company was bound to be over its teething problems in the next nine months and by then he would be able to draw a proper salary.

If Mr Lincoln and his partner, Chris Bryant, had been content to carry on designing customised interfaces, that optimism might have been justified.

But 18 months after launching their Southampton company, Fast Firmware Techniques, they decided to try to beat the Americans at their own game: the manufacture of array processors.

These are add-ons which dramatically increase the "brain power" of computers, while allowing them to be operated in exactly the same way.

The American versions cost at least £50,000 and were available for only a limited range of applications. They decided



to try and come up with something more versatile, for half the price.

It did not occur to them that the project might be over-ambitious. Nor did they stop to wonder whether anyone would be willing to lend money to two youngish electronics engineers who were apparently going through a "mad scientist" phase.

Mr Lincoln, 32, and Mr Bryant, 35, met while studying electronics at Southampton University. Mr Lincoln left to enter the outside world but decided that ideas took too long to follow through in large

"The future is definitely rosy" - Adrian Lincoln, who 18 months ago launched a computer-hardware company with a partner

companies, while there was nowhere to go in small ones. Mr Bryant continued at university as a research fellow, making customised interfaces in his spare time - often with Mr Lincoln's help.

Eventually they decided that if they were ever going to start a business, now was the time - despite their mortgages and good salaries. They put their moonlighting activities on a full-time basis and started trading early in 1984.

They decided to design an array processor after comments from their own clients convinced them the market was there. However, the Department of Trade turned down their grant request.

Mr Lincoln said: "I think they thought the product wasn't original enough - that it was too me-tooish."

They raised their development money by getting their existing overdraft facility increased to £10,000. Then they

sorted out the architecture and went on to design the prototype in only 10 days in May 1985.

At the time, it all seemed ridiculously easy.

But they were blissfully unaware of the rocky road facing anyone who wants to turn a prototype into a mass-produced article.

Working on a shoestring on one floor of a rented terrace house and talking in code about optimising relative short vectors and real-time, closed-loop applications they were not an obviously good bet.

In October 1985 their prototype was launched, but the next spring, their accountants warned that they could not hope to finance the production unit from their existing business, and Mr Lincoln went looking for backers.

The DTI was now prepared to offer a grant of up to £20,000, provided they got

other finance. Mr Lincoln was surprised that backers were not coming forward. He could see that SNAP (synchronous numeric array processor) was a brilliant and original product which could make a computer process information between 50 and 200 times faster. Why didn't they?

"I didn't get discouraged, but the whole thing was very frustrating," he said. "After all the good publicity we'd got for our prototype, there was a danger we weren't going to make it."

Finally a venture-capital company, agreed to invest £117,000. But they soon found themselves handing over £38,000 of it to cover accountants and legal fees and commission.

Nevertheless, the extra finance meant they could move into a modern office building with a seminar room for potential customers and a properly laid-out production area.

Mr Lincoln regrets that they worked along for so long because it meant that some important things - such as marketing - were neglected.

"But," he said, "it was very difficult to pin down how we would reach our potential customers. It was such a specialised market and we couldn't see any one medium where we could advertise for them. And when you're small, it is very hard to overcome the credibility problem."

There could be happy ending, however. In the last 18 months the company has been making up for lost time, appointing an agent in Scandinavia and distributors in France and West Germany and running a small office in the US.

Perhaps their greatest triumph so far has been beating off American competition to get their product integrated into a US-manufactured work-station.

"The US and UK markets are extremely sluggish, but Europe is looking very good at the moment. We have plenty of people in this country who want to buy our product now, but can't budget for it until the next financial year."

"The future," said Mr Lincoln, "is definitely rosy."

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Esther Dyeon, the publisher of an influential US industry newsletter, Release 1.0, praised Agenda but also sees some problems with it, most notably that it dominated the computer while in use, unlike some memory-resident programs that could be called up while other software was in use.

From tomorrow, individuals are, with a few exceptions, legally entitled to see any personal information about them that is stored on a computer and to have it corrected if necessary. Systems which hold such information should now have been registered with the Data Protection Registrar, although only 150,000 of an expected 300,000 have done so.

The registrar, Eric Howe, is warning that unregistered users could be identified by members of the public seeking to exercise their new rights. He says he will start the first prosecutions for failure to register by the end of this year. The registrar produces eight booklets of guidelines available free on 0525-535777. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy has just published

Managing Data Protection, which covers the legal requirements and the managerial implications of data protection and security. Cost: £35 from CIPFA Publications on 01-930 3456.

Geoff Unwin, the new president of the Computing Services Association has suggested some radical ideas to try and cut down the shortage of experienced computer staff and reduce poaching between companies. Most controversial is the idea of a transfer fee when an employee moves.

The fee would be paid between companies that are members of the scheme to reflect the cost of training. Mr Unwin also welcomed a scheme by the Computing Services Industry Training Council to produce a standard training programme of three to five years that would produce a skilled information technology worker.

Employees on the scheme would have a logbook supervised by employers that would take with them between jobs and which would record their training and experience.

Japan has tightened controls on the export of strategic goods to most of the communist world from today but has exempted China from some of the restrictions.

Last week the Japanese cabinet approved new rules to prevent scandals such as the one involving Toshiba Machine, which high-technology equipment to the Soviet Union in contravention of rules laid down by CoCom, the Paris-based committee that controls exports of military-related technology to communist countries.

Named in the revised controls are Afghanistan, Albania, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, North Korea, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Vietnam. They list 183 strategic items, 181 of them restricted under COCOM rules. The items are subject to approval for export and not banned entirely in every case. Manufacturers will be allowed to export 36 of these items to China under less restrictive conditions because of its friendly relations with Japan.

After dropping off sharply because of New York Stock Exchange restrictions, program trading in the US is on the rise again. That is partly because some of the curbs were lifted, but also because program traders have improvised to make up for the continued ban on automatic execution of stocks through the exchange's computers.

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The post also entail the administration and supervision of radio workshops, stores and the preparation of estimates, records and returns and only persons with proven administrative and managerial ability and experience should apply. Possession of an appropriate administrative and/or technical qualification is desirable.

Applicants will preferably have a sound knowledge of Police or similar VHF and UHF radio networks and be capable of managing such a system extending over the Highland Region, Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles.

An excellent health record and possession of a clean, driving licence are essential as substantial travelling is involved.

Assistance with removal/legal expenses will be given in accordance with the Authority's scheme.

Requests for application forms and job descriptions should be addressed to the Director of Manpower Services, Highland Regional Council, Regional Buildings, Glenquhart Road, Inverness (Tel 234121) quoting the above post number.

Completed application forms together with a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae should be returned by 20th November, 1987.

Previous applicants need not re-apply.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF NURSING

CONTRACT TERM & SALARY NEGOTIABLE

UNIQUE MANAGEMENT
OPPORTUNITY

We are one of Britain's leading health care consultancies, specialising in prestigious multi-national projects in the Middle East. One of these projects is located at Khams Mushayt in the South West of Saudi Arabia, high on a plateau in an attractive national park area. It comprises the modern and well equipped King Faisal and Armed Forces Hospitals and associated clinics, totalling 288 beds.

Reporting to the Director of Nursing, you will be responsible for the day-to-day running of a hospital for the families of military personnel - offering Obstetrics and Gynaecology, NICU, Paediatrics, Dialysis, ICU, Burns and Operating Theatres.

Your role will be mainly managerial. By applying your organisational and people-management talents you will lead the clinical nursing staff (led by four Nursing Officers reporting to you) and deputise for the Director of Nursing where appropriate.

We are looking for a very special mix of qualities and experience in the woman we appoint. Formal administrative/managerial qualifications would be an advantage, and you will naturally need considerable experience in nursing management.

KEY FACTS:

- excellent tax-free salary.
- free accommodation and health care.
- free flights, including holidays.
- stunning climate and scenery - the best in Saudi Arabia.
- friendly, cosmopolitan environment.
- wide range of social activities.

Customs and regulations in Saudi Arabia only allow female candidates to be considered for this post.

For full details, please write to Sandra Cromwell, Personnel Officer, Allied Medical Group Limited, 12/18 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DZ. Tel: 01-730 4511.

All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

THE ALLIED MEDICAL GROUP LTD ARE ACTING AS RECRUITMENT AGENTS ON BEHALF OF SAUDI MEDICARE LTD.

Allied Medical Group Limited

TEACHING POSTS

Dhahran - Saudi Arabia TAX FREE Salaries

AMI Saudi Arabia Ltd., is a highly successful expanding company offering a unique combination of healthcare facilities throughout the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

AMISAL has recently been awarded a contract to assist the Ministry of Defence and Aviation in the management of the prestigious Dhahran Medical Centre, a new specialist referral hospital and teaching academy, providing healthcare services to the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces and their families.

The academy which is opening soon lies in the centre of the complex and has the capability to teach more than 300 students in a wide variety of vocational fields extending from nursing professions to ancillary occupations needed in hospital operation and maintenance. It consists of two auditoriums for lectures and other cultural activities, a library, classrooms, technical laboratories, workshops and a television and cinema production centre with the ability to televise most medical activities in the hospital and relay them to the Academy.

A wonderful opportunity awaits teaching staff in the following areas to become involved in the development of this new Academy.

X-RAY • NUTRITION
PHARMACOLOGY • LABORATORY
FIRST AID • OPERATING THEATRE
SPECIALISED NURSING
HOSPITAL ADMITTING PROCEDURES
PHYSIOTHERAPY • ECG/EEG
PHARMACY • CSSD
MEDICAL RECORDS
MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY
GENERAL NURSING

The instructors will teach in a field of his/her speciality, plan and organise course content and scheduling, plus extra curricular activities.

Qualifications required are a relevant degree and teaching certificate and 2 years' teaching experience, OR a certificate of professional competency in the healthcare speciality with 5 years' hospital experience 2 of which in a teaching capacity. A teaching certificate is desirable but not essential.

An excellent benefits package is offered together with a working environment plus recreational facilities which equal the best in the Kingdom.

Write now for an application form to Ruth Jameson, quoting reference 0150TH, at AMI Middle East Services Ltd., 7/9, St. James's Street, London, SW1A 1EE or telephone 01-839 3812/01-409 1680.

AMI MIDDLE EAST
SERVICES LTD.
7/9 ST. JAMES'S STREET, LONDON SW1A 1EE



BUSINESS MANAGER

C. £13,000 pa

Major private patients' unit
(Central London)

Your experience of hospitals may well be minimal.

Yet, while you value efficiency, you also thoroughly enjoy working with, and organising, people. You are articulate and personable. When the need arises, you can be extremely charming.

As such you will be part of the public 'face' for this major service enterprise in London's West End.

Primarily, it's your sound background in financial management, which will win you the job because, as one of the team of three senior managers, you will be initiating and monitoring all business and financial systems.

No position quite like this has existed before. Your contribution will be crucial to the viability of the whole enterprise. Make a success of it and the rewards, ultimately, could be considerable.

Should you wish to know more about this unique position, you can call Christine Hamm in complete confidence, for full details.

13 PRINCE OF WALES TERRACE - LONDON - W8 5PG
TELEPHONE 01 937 4454/5

Recruitment Consultants

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international
recruitment
SAUDI ARABIA AND
U.A.E.

We have numerous requirements for all grades of Medical Professional Personnel with 3 years experience.

NEURO - SURGEON MScP 34K

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

OFFICER MSc 13½K

DIETICIAN BSc 11½K

PURCHASING OFFICER 11½K

Urgent Locum Staff Nurses for U.A.E. Immediate start.

For all Middle East opportunities please contact Kathy Johnson 01 408 1444

0795 76392 Eves and W/ends or send C.V.s to the above address.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
SCHOOL OF NURSING

An Equal Opportunities Employer

St Crispin Hospital

STUDENT NURSE

TRAINING FOR

REGISTERED

MENTAL NURSING

A CAREER IN

PSYCHIATRIC

NURSING

Places available in January

1988 for 3 year course

leading to the R.N.M.S.

Certificate based at St

Crispin Hospital,

Northampton.

Applicants should possess

5 'O' levels (Grade A, B or

C) or entrance test may be

taken by mature students.

Ring David Garrity (Senior

Tutor), Northampton 52223

extending 345 for details

or write to Central Nurse

Recruitment Office, c/o

School of Nursing, General

Hospital, Milling Road,

Northampton.

DEPARTMENT OF

VIROLOGY

THE HOSPITALS

FOR SICK

CHILDREN

GREAT ORMOND

STREET

LONDON W6 3JH

JUNIOR B -

MEDICAL

LABORATORY

SCIENTIFIC

OFFICER

Applications are invited from suitably

qualified candidates for a post in the

above department. The department

encompasses all fields of Virology

and a wide based training will be

given to the successful candidate.

Application forms and job

descriptions are available from the

Personnel Department at the above

address or telephone 01 829 8656.

Closing date: 23rd November 1987.

COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS
OTE £30k

This a wonderful opportunity to join a young and rapidly expanding Company, and grow with it. Although we are small, we are a Market Leader in the Personnel Services Sector, specialising in finding the right Consultants and Managers for the Computer, Telecommunications and Electronics Industries.

In order to help us grow we are looking for two new consultants.

An experienced consultant who has a proven track record in both the Contract and Permanent sectors of the Market:

A young, enthusiastic consultant or training officer who wishes to branch out into recruitment. You must not be afraid of hard work and long hours, but in exchange for these, you will receive high rewards on both a personal and financial basis.

You will be given a good consolidated training base on which your career can be built, and we will give you all the support, opportunities and encouragement you need to succeed with us.

For a confidential discussion telephone Ron Stewart on 0753 833017/864358 (24 hr answer phone) or send your CV, or telephone after working hours 0344 420876.



EXECUTIVE PLACEMENT LIMITED

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AND SELECTION SPECIALISTS

51 CLARENCE ROAD, WINDSOR, BERKS.

SL4 5AX

HOUSING BENEFITS
OFFICER

Housing Department

PO1 currently £12,519 to £13,506

The City Council has just completed a re-organisation and expansion of the Benefit Section which includes new offices and large reception and interviewing facilities. The re-structuring incorporates a sub-division of the public and private sectors to provide a more efficient service.

The Authority has invested in a new computer which will enable transition to the new regulations in April 1988 to be as smooth as possible.

You will have proven management ability, extensive knowledge of Welfare Rights and current and new Benefit Regulations.

Experience in computer based systems is also essential. Relocation Scheme/Temporary Housing Facilities in appropriate cases.

Further details and application form, returnable by 20th November, 1987, from the Personnel and Training Officer, Town Clerk and Chief Executive's Department, Civic Centre, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 0QG, Tel: (0228) 22411, ext. 283, quoting the post number: SP625.

The Council is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications regardless of race, sex, marital status or disability, 160.

CREATIVE
MEDIA AND
MARKETING
APPOINTMENTSYOU SIMPLY CAN'T AFFORD
TO MISS THE TIMES OFF
YOUR WEDNESDAY
SCHEDULE.

01 481 4481

THE TIMES

THE PRINCE'S TRUST
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

This new post offers an exciting and challenging opportunity with a national charity working to benefit disadvantaged young people.

Administrative duties will include the guidance and support of a national network of c. 1,000 volunteers and services to innovative projects to further the charity's objectives.

Applicants should be motivated, committed and have some experience of voluntary work with young people.

Starting salary about £18,000.

Please write in confidence, with full career details, by 30th November 1987 to:-

The Director,
The Royal Jubilee and Prince's Trusts,
8 Bedford Row,
London WC1R 4BA

Further information about the post is available from the above address on request.

MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNTANT

Part-qualified Management Accountant to assist the Financial Director of an active Trade Association in Central London.

The ideal candidate will be aged 22-30 and have a sound working knowledge of accounting principles. Will also be required to assist in the implementation and maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The ability to work on own initiative is essential.

The position offers a good opportunity for career advancement. Salary circa £14,500 per annum depending upon age and experience.

Please write with full c.v. to:

Mr R TIL
The Food & Drink Federation
6 Catherine Street London WC2B 5JJ

DIRECTOR NYB

National Youth Bureau

The Bureau is funded by Government to provide a national information and curriculum development advisory service to the Youth Service and others working with young people.

The offices are in Leicester.

Reporting to the Management Committee of the Bureau, the Director is accountable for a staff of about 60 people and a budget of about £1,000,000.

Although candidates must have an appreciation of the work and purpose of the Youth Service, they could come from wider education or training fields. They must be able to demonstrate managerial ability and achievement in the fields of youth work/education/training of young people to include, in particular, curriculum development skills. They must also demonstrate the personal qualities and experience necessary to maintain and significantly develop the work of a national agency receiving public funding.

The appointment will be for a fixed five year term. The starting salary will normally be £26,335 rising by annual increments to £27,985.

Further information is available from Ivor Widdison, Council of Local Education Authorities, 65A Eaton Square, Westminster, London SW1W 9SH (Tel: 01-235 1200 Ext. 201).

Written formal application should be submitted by 23 November 1987.

THE NATIONAL YOUTH BUREAU IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

INSTITUTE OF
OFFSHORE ENGINEERING
Accountant/Financial
Controller

The Institute and its associated companies Environment and Resource Technology (ERT) Ltd and Orkney Water Test Centre Ltd provide a major range of contract and consultancy services, primarily to the offshore oil industry. Further commercial developments are anticipated, including projects in the manufacture and bioresource exploitation fields. With the steady growth in its commercial activities, the Institute plans to establish a new senior post within the "group" to develop and manage its financial affairs, and to act in a Company Secretary role in some of the ventures.

The successful applicant will have to be an energetic member of a wide-ranging multidisciplinary team. Salary, in the region of £20,000, and other terms of employment will be negotiable, reflecting the experience expected of the successful applicant.

Applications should be made, in confidence, to:

C S Johnston, Director
Institute of Offshore Engineering
Research Park, Heriot-Watt University
Riccarton, Edinburgh EH14 4AS

A guide to career opportunities

Stretching all the talents

Application forms can be obtained from the Personnel Department, Room 312, Kings Meadow House, c/o Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading RG1 8DB. Telephone: Michael Clarke, Reading (0734) 593822. Please quote ref: OP230/5699. Closing date: Monday 30th November, 1987.

● Further information from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, 14, Bedford Row, London WC1R4ED

County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland. NE61 2EF. Tel. (0670) 514343, ext. 3177.

County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland. NE61 2EF. Tel. (0670) 514343, ext. 3177.

مجلسه ۱۴۴۴

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Director Institute of Hydrology

Wallingford, Oxon
up to £28,215

DUTIES: To be responsible to the NERC Director, Terrestrial and Freshwater Sciences for the management and direction of the Institute of Hydrology, and for the management of the Wallingford Laboratory which houses the Institute. The Laboratory also houses the hydrogeology staff of the NERC British Geological Survey. To maintain line management control of Institute of Hydrology staff, and to be responsible for their scientific quality and productivity. To oversee appropriate scientific programmes based in the Institute, and to maintain a personal scientific activity. To represent the Institute to outside bodies, sponsors and customers, and to enhance the ability of the Institute to attract financial support. To maintain, increase and improve scientific links with Universities and other relevant bodies. To take part in the running of the TFS Directorate, and to liaise with other parts of NERC.

Applicants should have an international scientific reputation in the field of hydrology or closely related subject, and experience in the management of research.

The appointment is pensionable under the NERC superannuation scheme. Terms and conditions are similar to those in the British Civil Service. Some assistance towards the cost of house sale/house purchase may be available.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from Mrs June Shields at the address given below or by telephoning (0793) 40101, Ext. 472. Completed applications, including a full CV, should be sent to Mrs Shields, Natural Environment Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wilts, SN2 1EU by 27 November 1987. Interviews will be held in London on 22 December 1987.

The Natural Environment Research Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



Natural
Environment
Research
Council

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

● PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

British Military Government, Berlin

...to be responsible, as deputy to the Inspector General of Public Safety, for supervision of and liaison with the West Berlin Police Force in the British sector of Berlin, and for liaison with certain other governmental and executive bodies. The post is at First Secretary level and carries diplomatic status.

Preferably aged at least 40, you must be a British citizen, have experience of police work at a senior level in either a civilian or military context (preferably in both), and be competent in German, both spoken and written, to a high standard.

THE CIVIL SERVICE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Previous experience of working in Berlin and a good knowledge of French are desirable.

Starting salary between £13,615 and £16,965 according to qualifications and experience, plus tax-free local allowances and relocation expenses. Promotion prospects.

For further information and an application form (to be returned by 11 December 1987) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/7398.

Metropolitan Borough of CALDERDALE

Management Accountant

Looking for depth of experience an career development?

Either:
Qualified C.I.P.F.A. or Equivalent -
P.O. 5-8 - £13,890-£15,162

Or:
Qualified Accounting Technician -
Scale 6/P.O. 1-4 - £9,966-£13,506

Based in Pennine Yorkshire, Calderdale is a progressive Authority operating a modern computerised on-line accounting and budgeting system. We now have the following opportunity for Qualified C.I.P.F.A. or Qualified Accounting Technician.

Post F.18
This is a traditional accounting position which will give wide ranging and in depth experience of dealing with the whole financial spectrum of a group of local Authority services.

You will be second in a team of five dealing with all aspects of accounting and budgeting for a range of services within the Council, reporting to the Group Accountant on detailed budgeting and longer term financial planning and responsible to the Principal Assistant Accountant for all accounting aspects.

Starting salary for Accounting Technicians will be dependent upon time since qualification and level of relevant experience and ability. If you feel you have the relevant experience and ability, please contact Karen Morley, Ext. 3509 on Halifax (0422) 57257 for further information.

Application form and job description can be obtained from Chief Financial Officer, Princess Buildings, Princess Street, Halifax HX1 1TP. Closing Date: 16th November 1987.

This Council is committed to being an equal opportunities employer and service provider.



ETON
COLLEGE

Building Surveyors

The College is proposing to make two new appointments to strengthen the capital and maintenance functions. Two Building Surveyors are required to assist the Buildings Bursar, one to be primarily involved in the College's substantial programme of capital projects and the other to be mainly involved in building maintenance and improvement schemes. Applicants should have experience of:-

- preparing drawings for minor improvement schemes,
- estimating costs for small works,
- using micro computer based planning techniques,
- supervising and controlling building and repair work
- liaising with architects, contractors, planning authorities, etc.

A fully competitive salary will be offered to the successful candidates with a possibility of accommodation if required. Further details and application forms can be obtained from: The Buildings Bursar, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 6DA.

Tel. (0753) 869991 Ext. 152.

The closing date for applications is 19th November, 1987

WEYMOUTH AND PORTLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

WEYPORT SERVICES Financial Administrator

- NEW KEY POST
- ATTRACTIVE SOUTH WEST LOCATION
- RELOCATION PACKAGE
- CAR ALLOWANCE
- UP TO £15,162 pa

Weyport Services will supply the Borough's direct Labour services for the future.

Reporting to the Works Manager, you will have the opportunity to be in at the inception of the new structure and to assist in shaping its operations. You will be professionally qualified - any relevant discipline - and have the experience and commitment to succeed in a challenging and competitive environment.

The area of Weymouth and Portland is most attractive and offers excellent housing and recreational facilities. A relocation package is available and improvements are under review. Temporary housing is available.

Interested candidates are invited to discuss the post by telephoning the Deputy Borough Engineer, John Sherlock on Weymouth (0305) 761222 Ext. 250.

Information pack is available from the Personnel and Management Services Section, PO Box 21, Municipal Offices, North Quay, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8TA, or telephone Weymouth (0305) 761222 Ext. 316.

CLOSING DATE for receipt of completed application forms: Friday November 1987.

ARTICLED CLERK

Salary Scale 3/5 - £6,951-£9,873

Applications are invited from law graduates wishing to enter local government, and who have passed or substantially passed the Law Society's final examination.

The successful applicant will be articled to the County Secretary and Solicitor and full training will be given in varied legal matters during a two year period of Articles, which is to commence as soon as possible.

Applications Forms are available from the County Secretary and Solicitor, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1UD. Telephone (0983) 524031, Ext. 3204.

Closing Date: 30 November.

Isle of Wight
COUNTY COUNCIL

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Commercial Conveyancing

New Appointment - £ Highly Attractive
Ideally 2 years P.Q.E.

Due to continuing growth through new business, our Client, a successful and resourceful London firm with a broadly based Commercial practice, offers an excellent opportunity for a Solicitor with energy and enthusiasm to work within a stimulating environment. The partners recognise that growth and prosperity depend upon the ability to provide a service that is perceived to be excellent.

If you have the relevant experience since qualifying then please telephone James Davis in the strictest confidence or write to him at the address set out below.

LEGAL SELECTION

160 New Bond Street,
London WY1 0HR England
Telephone: 01-493 8515
(24 hour answering phone)
Fax: 01-491 7459

JAMES
DAVIS
&
PARTNERS

ALL THAT JAZZ

Well established City firm requires young enthusiastic Entertainment Lawyers with one year or more PQE. Sound knowledge of contract law a must, as is an ability to deal with clients from all areas of the Music and Entertainment business. This is not a job for star-gazers but high calibre professionals - do you fit the bill?

LITIGATION

To maintain the excellent reputation of this medium-sized City firm we have been instructed to search for a number of litigators with some property experience. Ideally candidates will be newly qualified or have up to one year's PQE.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION/INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

A rare opportunity to combine two stimulating and challenging disciplines under one umbrella. The ideal applicant should be able to demonstrate both a sound background in commercial

litigation coupled with an active interest in Intellectual Property Law - partnership prospects.

CONVEYANCER

In the City of dreaming spires, as opposed to expiring dreams, a go-ahead established firm requires the dedicated services of an experienced Conveyancing Solicitor or Legal Executive with up to 2 years PQE. Vacancies also exist in their associated office.

BARRISTERS

Are you loitering without intent or squatting without a proprietary interest in your present chambers? Come and talk to us about the countless opportunities available in private practice for young Barristers with a commercial or chancery background.

For further details of these and other vacancies both in London and the provinces, contact Anne Groth or Carl Batty on 01-831-2286 (days) or 01-885-3729/01-350-0650 (evenings and weekends) or write with full C.V. to

31 SOUTHAMPTON ROW
LONDON • WC1B 5HJ

Gabriel Duffy Consultancy

Enterprise Oil Commercial Lawyer

Enterprise Oil seeks a Commercial Lawyer to join a small legal team where commercial awareness, initiative and enthusiasm are essential attributes. Reporting to the Head of Legal Affairs, you will enjoy immediate responsibility for commercial contracts and gain experience in a wide range of upstream oil and gas duties. Professionally qualified, you probably have 2-4 years' post-qualification experience ideally gained in commerce, industry or private practice.

An attractive, competitive salary and a comprehensive range of benefits, including a company car, is available.

In complete confidence, please ring or write with CV to John Diack, Simpson Crowden Consultants Limited, Specialists in Executive Search and Selection, 97-99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Telephone: 01-629 5909.

Simpson Crowden
CONSULTANTS

Department of Administrative and Legal Services

SENIOR ASSISTANT SOLICITOR: (A065)

Scale P08 £15,162 - £17,151
per annum (currently)
£15,507 - £17,541 per annum
with effect from 1.2.88

You will be a Solicitor or Barrister with a minimum of two years' experience preferably in local government and if successful will be joining Britain's fastest growing local authority.

Employment will be on advocacy work in the County and Magistrates' Courts and at Public Inquiries, together with a variety of legal work relating to a full range of local authority functions.

Responsibilities also include the management of the Common Law Section providing legal advice to all the Council's Departments and attending Committees as required.

36.25 hours per week
Subsidiary Staff Certificate
Free Group Life Assurance
Council Car User Allowance
Mortgage Subsidy in Approved Cases
Removal and Disturbance Allowance up to £3500 in Approved Cases

CLOSING DATE: 27th November 1987

Application forms are obtainable by telephoning Milton Keynes 615200 Ext. 418 (answering service available 9.00am - 5.00pm, Monday to Friday) or by writing to:-

Borough of

Milton Keynes

Chief Personnel & Training Officer
BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
CIVIC OFFICES 1 SAXON GATE EAST
CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES MK9 3HG

The Council is an equal opportunities employer. Applications are invited from those with the necessary attributes, regardless of race, creed, nationality, disability or sex.

GILL & COMPANY Covent Garden

Young firm requires recently qualified solicitor for Commercial Conveyancing. £17,000 p.a. Excellent prospects.

Please write or telephone

Mr Coombes, Gill & Company,
18/20 Bow Street, London, WC2 6TA.

01 240 2366

LIPSON LLOYD-JONES HAPPY NEW YEAR?

CITY - Financial Services

W1 - Commercial Property

W1 - Company Commercial

CITY - Corporate Finance

££££ - Market Rates

Your best Christmas present this year could be the job you want next year.

We at Lipson Lloyd-Jones are determined to help make yours a happy New Year.

Contact Simon Lipson, a solicitor, or Marian Lloyd-Jones, a recruitment specialist on 01-222 8866/4243 (24 hours).

When we get to work, you get to work.

LIPSON LLOYD-JONES, SUITE 442, PREMIER HOUSE, 18 GREYCOAT PLACE, LONDON SW1P 1SB.

TELEPHONE 01-222 8866/4243

Articled Clerk

£7659 - £10,647 rising to
£7833 - £10,887 on 1 February 1988

A Solicitor's Articled Clerk is required in the Borough Secretary's Department, the post offers training in all aspects of the legal work undertaken by the Council. Applicants should have passed the Law Society's final examination in full or be entitled to retake one or two papers.

The salary will be within the above range.

Generous relocation expenses up to £4100 plus other benefits are payable in appropriate cases and temporary housing accommodation may be available.

Please write or telephone for further details and an application form to the Personnel and Management Services Department, Town Hall, Luton, LU1 2BQ. Telephone Luton 31291 extn 2621. Closing date November 25th 1987. Luton Borough Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

LUTON
BOROUGH

Cröllins Solicitors

SOLICITORS IN WEYBRIDGE,
WALTON AND COBHAM REQUIRE
THE FOLLOWING STAFF FOR
THEIR WEYBRIDGE OFFICES:-

1. Litigation Solicitor to deal with international and domestic debt work and general, commercial and domestic litigation. Candidates should have one to two years qualification with a thorough grounding in High Court and County Court work. Salary dependent on qualifications and experience. Partnership possibilities.
2. All-rounder to deal with domestic work of every type both contentious and non 'contentious'. Preferably one to two years experience, salary dependent on qualifications and experience. Partnership possibilities.
3. Article Clerk who is looking to start Articles with good experience in commercial and domestic work. Must have passed all examinations.
4. Transfer of Articles - Candidate with at least six months experience who is looking for transfer and who is willing primarily to carry out domestic work and gain experience in matrimonial and criminal legal aid work. Please reply to Valerie Cooper, 113 Anyards Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2LJ with full C.V. Telephone 0932-68166.

ASA LAW

We combine in arranging assignments for

LOCUMS

Country Work

Long & short bookings and

part-time in all disciplines.

Rates negotiable

Tel: 01 404 4741

We operate a special service for

NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA

Solicitors

Contact Gill Kemp

(Solicitor N.Z.)

ASA LAW

The Locum Specialists

01 283 7281

Mr Thompson, Senior Counsel

London Private and Hotel and

Weymouth Consultants: 0934

26153.

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

PRIVATE PRACTICE
COMMERCIAL LAWYERS
EC4

This well known banking practice is seeking to expand and develop its commercial department. Good company/commercial experience is desirable but drive and enthusiasm are equally important. Salaries and prospects are excellent.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
WC2

An opportunity exists for an assistant solicitor to manage his/her own caseload and assist in running the progressive commercial property department. Stimulating work and a congenial environment are complemented by a good salary package.

COMPUTER LAW
EC4

Assistant Solicitors with 18 months experience are sought for a recently established computer law department within this City firm. A technical background and drafting skills would be advantageous.

For details of these and other positions, please contact John Cullen.

CORPORATE FINANCE
LEADING CITY FIRM
£18-£45,000

Our client, a well established, dynamic practice is seeking solicitors or barristers either new or with up to 5 years experience for its expanding corporate finance department. Good academic credentials, determination and strong inter-personal skills are essential in this demanding environment. Successful candidates will be involved in a variety of work to include: M & A; floatations; takeovers; venture capital and general corporate advice.

BANKING

We are currently looking for qualified lawyers with excellent academic credentials and experience of domestic corporate finance transactions to develop their careers in this field.

Opportunities exist with high profile U.S. and European Investment Banks, U.K. Merchant Banks and Stockbrokers to join advisory teams at all levels in the areas of M & A; listings; issues; business development and client liaison.

For details of these and other vacancies, please contact Judith Farmer or Lucy Hartley.

COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY
COMPLIANCE OFFICER
to £40,000 + Car + Bens

An exciting opportunity exists for an ambitious, commercially minded lawyer within a London-based company specialising in investment in the futures market. The principal role will be to monitor and maintain the necessary compliance procedures, liaise with the relevant S.R.O.s and provide general legal advice as required. Ideal candidates must have relevant experience and strong inter-personal skills.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL
LAWYERS
£20-£50,000 + Bens

We act on behalf of a wide range of clients, from established blue chip organisations to smaller successful companies — who are presently seeking lawyers with strong academic backgrounds and good inter-personal skills. There are exciting opportunities for ambitious lawyers and highly competitive salaries are offered together with good career prospects.

For further details please contact Lisa Wilson, Robert Drury or Tim Knight.

Property
LawyersDevelopment and
investment work

The firm's Property Department is one of the key elements of our business.

It comprises some fifty lawyers and it undertakes complex and substantial property transactions for sovereign states, banks, institutions and public companies.

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Herbert Smith

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OVERSEAS OFFICES: HONG KONG, NEW YORK, PARIS.

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HONG KONG

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BAKER & MCKENZIE

Intellectual Property
Lawyer

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Our well-equipped offices at Oxford Circus provide a dynamic and successful environment. The firm is rapidly expanding, and altogether the prospects before you are excellent.

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£ Excellent + Car + Benefits

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ARCO
Chemical Europe, Inc.

Law Report November 10 1987 Court of Appeal

Payment to employee not taxable

Bray (Inspector of Taxes) v Best
Before Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Woolf
[Judgment October 30]

Capital payments made on the winding-up of two company funds to a long-standing employee after the termination of his employment with the company did not fall within the charge to income tax under section 181 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. The payments could not be attributed to any year of assessment other than that in which they were paid and as that was after the termination of the employment their source had ceased to exist.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Peter Morris Best, from a judgment of Mr Justice Walton (The Times January 21, 1986; [1986] STC 96) reversing a determination of a single special commissioner and holding that the payments were to be deemed to have been earned during the period of his employment.

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Richard Bramwell for the taxpayer, Mr Charles Potter, QC and Mr Michael Hart, QC, for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the taxpayer was employed from 1958 to April 1, 1979 by A. Gallenham & Co Ltd. On that date he and all other employees were transferred to the employ of the company's parent company.

Before the transfer, two trusts for the benefit of the employees were wound up and in the course of 1979-80 the taxpayer became entitled to receive trust funds totalling £18,111.

He accepted liability to tax under sections 187 and 188(3) of the 1970 Act in respect of the sums over £10,000. But the Crown took the view that the sums were emoluments of the taxpayer's employment with the company and chargeable under section 181.

It was no longer disputed that the moneys received were "emoluments" from the employment. But the taxpayer sought to have reinstated the decision of the commissioner that the emoluments could not be attributed to any one of the relevant years of his employment and were thus properly attributable to 1979-80 - the distribution year - during which period there was no employment, that was to say no source for any emolument, which meant that the receipts could not be chargeable to tax.

The Crown accepted the "source" doctrine: see *Whiteman and Wheatcroft on Income Tax* 2nd edition (1976) paragraph 1-28.

"Most types on income are classified by reference to the source from which they come. From this it was held to follow

that if a taxpayer ceased to possess a particular source of income he could not be taxed on delayed receipts from that source unless these were referable to, and could be assessed in respect of, a period during which he possessed the source."

However, in this case, which had been accepted by Mr Justice Walton, was said to be based on logic and on authority. An emolument, it was said, which was a reward for services was an emolument for the period during which the services were rendered.

Where that extended into two or more years then a fair apportionment was necessary - that in the instant case being either the 21 years of the taxpayer's employment or the period of eligibility stipulated for each trust. The authorities relied on were *Dracup v Radcliffe* (1946) 27 TC 188, *Chasman v Jordan* (1954) Ch 744 and *Board of Inland Revenue v Sute* (1946) AC 657.

But the decision of Mr Justice Walton that an emolument had as a matter of necessity and of law to be attributed to a period of employment was erroneous. The year or years to which to attribute such an emolument was a question of fact.

The very nature of an emolument from employment suggested that in most cases it had to be attributed to a year or years of the employment. But that did not necessarily follow.

Here the commissioners had found that there was no justification to attribute all or any part of the receipts to 1979-79 (the last employment year) nor for apportioning them among earlier years.

He had in effect made a finding that the receipts were attributable to the distribution year but that as the taxpayer was not then employed there was no source in that year and thus liability to tax.

That finding accorded with common sense. *Prima facie*, an emolument was assessable in the year of its receipt unless grounds existed for attributing it to a specific previous period. None existed in the instant case.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE, agreeing, said that he could not accept, as Mr Justice Walton had, that it followed that if a payment was made to an employee for services generally and not for some specific services or for service during a specific period, then that payment had to be made in respect of some period of the service.

A payment which was for services generally should be attributed to the year in which it was paid unless there was material which enabled one to say that it should be attributed to some other period.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF, also agreeing, said that the existence of the "source" doctrine made it possible for an emolument received after the termination of the employment to be not chargeable under section 181 where, as here, there were no circumstances, apart from the termination of the employment, suggesting any chargeable period other than that in which the payment was made.

Cases where it would not be possible to identify any earlier chargeable period should be few but in those cases the correct solution was not to require the taxpayer to come to a decision for which there was no logical justification but to treat the payment as falling into charge in the year of assessment when it was paid subject that that had the result that no tax would be assessable under section 181. The appeal had to be allowed.

Solicitors: Penningtons; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Abuse of Revenue power is not a matter for the commissioners

Aspin v Estill (Inspector of Taxes)
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Mustill and Lord Justice Nicholls
[Judgment November 9]

An allegation by a taxpayer that the Inland Revenue had abused its power was not a matter that concerned general commissioners hearing his appeal against income tax assessments raised against him. The only remedy in such cases was by way of proceedings for judicial review in the High Court, Parliament not having intended that jurisdiction to be exercised by the commissioners.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Reginald Aspin, from a decision of Mr Justice Mervyn Davies (The Times May 15, 1986; [1986] STC 323) that South Birmingham general commissioners had been correct to uphold the assessments made on him in respect of his United States retirement pension.

Mr R. H. Todd for the taxpayer; Mr Lancelot Henderson for the Crown.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the taxpayer, a British subject, worked in the United States for 20 years, returning to the United Kingdom in 1978.

He was entitled to a monthly

US retirement pension. His financial position was, he said, that he could only afford to remain here if that pension was not taxable.

A letter addressed to him from the Inland Revenue in September 1979 suggested that his evidence that he had been categorically told on the telephone by a Birmingham tax office that it was not taxable was not mere invention. But the facts regarding such advice did not appear in the case stated.

Following *Oppenheimer v Cattermole* (1976) AC 249 both the commissioners and Mr Justice Mervyn Davies were correct in deciding that the pension payments from the US were income arising from possessions out of the UK and as such taxable under Case V of Schedule D.

The problem remained of whether the commissioners and the court had jurisdiction to investigate the facts underlying the taxpayer's allegation of having received wrong advice.

The taxpayer said the court should remit the matter to the commissioners to find the facts. But that would only be done if the commissioners, having found facts, could properly take them into account in deciding whether the appeal should be allowed.

The commissioners' function was to see if assessments were

properly raised in accordance with statute. The taxpayer was so assessed. What difference could it make if the commissioners found that wrong advice had been given to the taxpayer?

Relying on the speech of Lord Templeman in *R v Inland Revenue Commissioners, Ex parte Preston* (1985) AC 835, 862 concerning the remedy of judicial review being available to taxpayers, Mr Todd said that commissioners could consider whether it was an abuse of power for an assessment to be raised against the taxpayer at all.

But the remedy of judicial review was only available in the High Court. Parliament had not intended that general commissioners should exercise the judicial review jurisdiction.

Thus, even if the commissioners found the facts alleged by the taxpayer they could not found their decision on them. The taxpayer's only remedy lay, subject to his being given leave, in judicial review.

So far as his appeal by way of case stated was concerned the commissioners were right to confine themselves solely to the issue of whether the income was taxable.

Lord Justice Mustill agreed and Lord Justice Nicholls gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: William Khan & Co, Birmingham; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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Bournemouth to c.£20,000 + car
This well regarded practice requires a senior solicitor to undertake non-contentious work. Candidates are likely to be at least 3 years' admitted and pursuing partnership. A high proportion of the workload will involve estate conveyancing for property developers. An aspiring or experienced commercial litigation solicitor is also required by the same practice.

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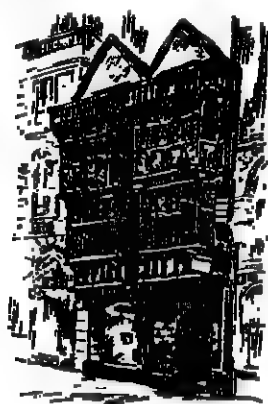
Northampton to c.£20,000
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Well thought of commercial firm requires two solicitors, preferably newly to 5 years' admitted, to specialise in company/commercial law and commercial conveyancing respectively. A large town centre practice needs a solicitor to specialise in private client work, principally conveyancing and probate and trusts. A progressive practice, a number of whose partners are ex 'City' needs a litigation solicitor, probably up to 2 years' admitted, for commercial work.

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Major firm requires litigation solicitor, preferably up to 3 years' admitted to deal with civil and criminal litigation. The practice offers a highly competitive salary and excellent partnership prospects.

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Our client is particularly interested in hearing from candidates with two or more years' post-qualification commercial property experience, currently working outside London. Accordingly, we shall be interviewing at the Michael Page offices in Leeds, Birmingham, Manchester and Bristol and at the Gosforth Park Hotel in Newcastle, on the following dates:

Leeds: 23rd November 1987
Newcastle: 24th November 1987
Manchester: 25th November 1987
Birmingham: 26th November 1987
Bristol: 27th November 1987

If you would like to meet us on one of the above dates for an informal chat about the firm and what it, and life in the City, has to offer you, please call Anna Thorne on 01-831 2000. If the above dates or places are inconvenient (and our search is not aimed exclusively at these areas), do not hesitate to call to arrange an alternative, or write to Anna Thorne at The Legal Division, Michael Page Partnership, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LE.



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Written applications and a full c.v. together with the names and addresses of two referees should reach me no later than the 20th November 1987 marked "In Confidence".

R. J. Haynes (Solicitor),
Clerk to the Justices.

Bromley Magistrates' Court,
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South Street,
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Leicestershire

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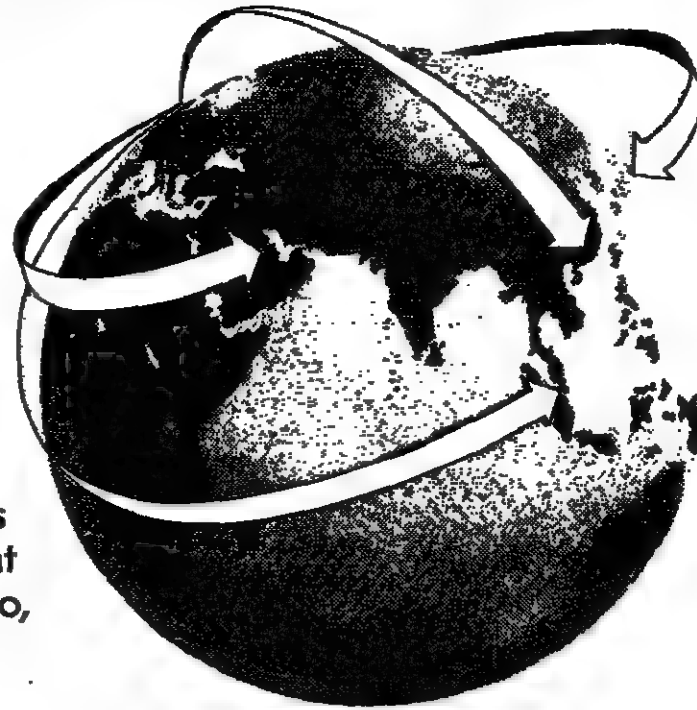
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AMERICAN
FOOTBALLBears
win at
the last
grunt

By Robert Kirley

The Chicago Bears, San Diego Chargers and San Francisco 49ers continued to plough towards the playoffs with victories in the National Football League on Sunday. Each club is leading its division with a record of seven wins and one defeat.

The Bears, who had to stage last-minute rallies to win their two previous games, needed a 52-yard field goal by Butler as time expired to beat their arch-rivals, the Green Bay Packers, 26-24. "We've won three games in a row that defy explanation," the Bears' coach, Mike Ditka, said.

McMahon completed on a 21-yard pass to Morris and a 20-yarder to McKinnon to set up Butler's decisive kick.

Abbott, of the Chargers, kicked a 39-yard field goal with 12 seconds remaining as San Diego beat the Indianapolis Colts 16-13. Dickerson, who joined the Colts from the Los Angeles Rams for \$5.3 million two weeks ago, fumbled at the Chargers' one-yard line.

The Chargers then advanced to set up the winning kick. Dickerson's fumble wrecked an otherwise sterling performance (35 carries for 138 yards).

Montana passed for 289 yards and three touchdowns to lead the 49ers to a 27-20 win over the Houston Oilers.

National Football League

American Conference	W	L	D	P	A
East division					
Buffalo Bills	4	4	0	143	197
Indianapolis Colts	4	4	0	183	119
Atlanta Falcons	4	4	0	223	171
New England Patriots	4	4	0	143	173
New York Jets	3	4	0	163	163
Central division					
Cleveland Browns	5	3	0	211	110
Houston Oilers	5	3	0	200	180
Pittsburgh Steelers	5	3	0	174	172
Cincinnati Bengals	5	3	0	188	176
West division					
San Diego Chargers	7	1	0	270	141
Seattle Seahawks	7	1	0	192	125
Denver Broncos	7	1	0	186	160
Los Angeles Raiders	7	1	0	189	156
Kansas City Chiefs	7	1	0	133	248
National Conference					
East division					
Washington Redskins	6	2	0	294	138
Dallas Cowboys	6	2	0	185	138
Philadelphia Eagles	6	2	0	182	213
St Louis Cardinals	6	2	0	182	209
New York Giants	6	2	0	144	166
Central division					
Chicago Bears	7	1	0	217	128
Minnesota Vikings	7	1	0	210	180
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	7	1	0	182	159
San Francisco 49ers	7	1	0	147	134
Detroit Lions	7	1	0	146	230
West division					
San Francisco 49ers	7	1	0	220	174
New Orleans Saints	7	1	0	211	137
Atlanta Falcons	7	1	0	182	159
Los Angeles Rams	7	1	0	184	219

San Francisco 49ers 27, Houston Oilers 20; Miami 20, Cincinnati 16; New York Jets 17, New England 10.

Simon Barnes, his heart in his riding boots, is saddled with the galloping fury of polo
Commoner at sport of princes

The dashing world of Jeremy Hyphen-Hyphen: polo in the raw belies its popular image as marbles on horseback (Photograph: Tommy Hindley)

Faithful readers of this space would have noticed that something of my habitual iron restraint goes out the window when I come to write about the horsey sports. One person who noticed this was Douglas Brown. Brown is one of those no-nonsense, devastatingly straightforward chaps. He plays, of all things, polo. He took it up late in life and thinks it is just about the best sport in the world.

In his no-nonsense way he gets tremendously sick of reading about polo in magazines. All prices and flowing frocks and Jeremy Hyphen-Hyphen-Money enjoying a joke with the Hon Arabella. Polo is not seen as a sport any more: it is an image used to sell just about anything that costs a great deal more than it ought to.

The popular notion of the game itself is as a kind of marbles played on very tame animals. Brown, chairman of Cirencester Polo Club, challenged me to play the game myself and tell the world the truth. With no help at all from the Hon Arabella.

And so, with my best riding boots in my bag and not a little trepidation in my heart, I went to Cirencester to meet Nicky Williams. Williams buys, trains or "makes" and sells polo ponies, schools polo ponies and players and also plays like a demon for Cirencester.

He put me on one of his ponies and started telling me what to do. It was one of the most disorientating experiences you could wish for. Imagine jumping into a car and finding all the controls, including the steering wheel, in the wrong place. And to make things more interesting, all the controls are about three times more sensitive than you expect: oversteer, overcorrect, a light touch on the brakes and you are half-way up your pony's neck.

There are many terrible myths about polo ponies: horse people always have awful stories about the heartlessness of people in different parts of the horsey world. The theory is that polo ponies have mouths like icebreakers and are worked so hard they are clapped out years before their time.

Well, I rode a slip of a thing of 19, as fizzy and as jolly a chap as you could wish for and yet who stopped at the merest nudge on the reins. All the

ponies I rode were beauties and a retired polo pony would make the most splendid hack. (Believe me, I know a lot about hacks.)

I first learned to ride for dressage, show jumping and cross-country. This was all different. It is no part of dressage to canter straight at the wall and whizz back at a full canter with scarcely a break in stride. With but a single hand on the reins — obviously you need a spare hand for the stick — the horse responds to the rein pressure on the neck and is super-naturally responsive to shifts of weight in the saddle: you lean the way you want to go. A useful by-product of this is that the horse will naturally tend to try to catch you if you slip.

It is all about sitting deep in the saddle, like a dressage rider, but instead of performing calm, precise movements you perform wild and excited precise movements. Polo ponies are a wonderful new world of horsemanship. The ultimate aim of your own and the horse's schooling is to control the pony with no more conscious thought than you use to control your own legs in football.

For the ball is the thing. The trouble is, you move as fast as an ice hockey player but aim to strike the ball from a moving platform and with a stick all but five feet long. It is, as you can imagine, quite fiendishly difficult.

Williams and Brown next had me doing "stick and ball" at Cirencester, which was good fun. It involves cantering about the place trying to whack a ridiculously tiny ball with your ridiculously long stick. By the time both pony and I had a serious sweat on I was beginning to get the hang of it. Sort of. Williams told me afterwards that my riding was better than my rather approximate stuff with the stick. It was a wrench to be less than

perfect but at least it was the right way round to get it wrong, I felt.

Williams and Brown were determined to complete my polo education and so they told me that the thing to do was to play in a few practice chukkas.

I turned chicken and said I'd be totally out of my depth but they were inexorable. I wanted to see what it was like, didn't I?

I played in a three-a-side practice match at Williams's tuff and undulating polo field. One of my opponents bounced the ball on the end of his stick half a dozen times in an awesomely casual sort of way. He, inevitably, was the man I had to mark — that and score the goals. "You are the spearhead," I was told. How good an idea was that?

And then on into the heat and chase of the game. Galloping like fury in all directions, ball-chasing like a tyre footballer, chasing back to mark this young superstar who hit

the ball several hundred yards with every blow. "Ride him off, ride him off," they shouted at me.

It was when I discovered that this is not a game for gentlemen that I began to enjoy myself. When your superstar is chasing the ball it is your duty to assault him a little. You can hook his stick with your own or, better still, bundle into him, horse, legs, elbows, shoulders and anything else handy. This is, I learned rapidly and to my surprise, a game of fierce physical contact. At 40mph and at a nice, bone-breaking height above the ground.

In the second chukka I switched to a muscly, confident and pugacious scrapper of a horse who loved to get in there and shove. He suited my mood to perfection: if I couldn't show any skill, at least I was going to get stuck in and mess a few people about. And as I brought the ethics of football rather than croquet

into play I was able to harry and chase with occasional flashes of purpose.

I hit the ball, I think, a total of twice in three chukkas. Once I backhanded to one of my own players, which was something of a surprise. The other time I smote the ground a mighty blow, damn near broke my wrist, shoved the ball about two feet and galloped over it, over-shooting by yards. I clean missed an open goal when a six-inch tap was required. Only connect, as E. M. Forster said.

I finished hot, sweaty and pugnacious. This is a game of confrontation, hot-blooded involvement and terrible language. It is a game for getting stuck in and going like a rocket. It is a game of great skill and a touch of savagery. It is about getting covered in horse sweat and human sweat and, more than anything else, it is about horses and horsemanship. It is bloody marvellous fun.

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Write in confidence by 27th November 1987

giving full details of education, experience, employment, present salary, post applied for and date available to: Personnel Manager, Legal Aid, Legal Aid Head Office, Newspaper House, 8-16 Great New Street, London EC4 3BN.

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Should you be unable to attend or would like to make a specific appointment please write to Simon Bristow/Ann Bates, quoting reference 87L/4371 at Daniels Bates Partnership Limited, Leeds Office, or telephone them on (0532) 461671.

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